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密勒氏
評論報

November-December 1952

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LETTERS

From the People

Comments from readers on current topics are cordially invited: their opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the views of the *China Monthly Review*.

PEACE MEET

To the Editor:

The 11-day Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions in Peking, attended by delegates from 37 countries representing a total of 1,600,000,000 people, will certainly give a heavy blow to the warmakers. We people throughout the country give full support to the resolutions reached at the conference.

It is a fact that peace is a prerequisite for all constructive life, especially to a country like China, which will soon start her first Five-Year Plan. But peace cannot be achieved without hard struggle.

To ensure world peace, we therefore demand the immediate cessation of the wars now going on in Korea, Viet-Nam and Malaya, the prohibition of atomic, chemical, bacteriological and all other weapons of mass destruction, the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea and other colonial countries, the conclusion of a peace pact among the five great powers, and the promotion of economic and cultural exchange among all nations.

CHAO MING-TAO

Municipal People's Court
Chungking

WORLD PEACE

To the Editor:

The convening of the recent Asian and Pacific Peace Conference in Peking is an event of great significance in the campaign for maintaining world peace.

We peace-loving people resolutely oppose the warmongering bloc now undermining peace. We oppose the armament drive of the imperialists and their design to prepare a new war. We oppose the use of Japan and Western Germany as bases for aggression. What we and the people throughout the world need is a peace pact among the five great powers—China, the Soviet Union, the United States, Britain and France.

We firmly believe that peace will triumph because the overwhelming majority of the people in the world today are grasping hands in friendship and striving for peace. As college students, we are determined to study hard and keep on struggling against the aggressors until the final victory is attained.

CHOU CHIA-LIN

Kunming

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86 YEARS YOUNG

To the Editor:

I have been receiving the Review regularly for a year now and always look forward to getting it. I will be 86 years young this winter. I am a retired locomotive engineer and a student of Debs. I worked with him in the Railway Brotherhoods in the late 80's and early 90's, and thought then I would live to see a better world. I believe the better world has come to China. Keep up the good work.

H. P. K.

Washington, USA

BOOK STORES

To the Editor:

Before liberation, Kunming's book stores were in a state of depression as a result of the Kuomintang's policy of keeping the people from acquiring new knowledge. People seldom went to buy or read for fear that they might get into trouble. During that time, it was quite common to see too frequent visitors to book stores being dragged away by the police. Children were not allowed to touch the books because, it was said, they were too young to understand things.

Szechuen Students

To the Editor:

Since liberation, Szechuen University in Chengtu, capital city of Szechuen province, has seen many changes.

One of the most noticeable has been the change in the professors' attitude toward teaching. A friendly relationship has been established between teachers and students. In class, the teachers no longer confine their lectures to abstract theories, as they did before, but lay emphasis on the principle of linking theory with practice. Free discussion is encouraged, which is usually followed by the teachers' summing up or explanation. After class, the teachers take time from lunch and rest, talking with students to understand their problems and help them.

That China's institutes of higher learning serve the needs of all can be seen from the composition of the student body in this university. This year many students from working class and peasant families were admitted, and more will be admitted in the future.

At present, new dormitories and classrooms are being put up on the campus in order to accommodate the greater number of students. Like East and North China, where the amalgamation of universities and colleges has just been completed, the reshuffling of some departments of the university with other universities and colleges will soon be carried out, in order to make more efficient use of manpower and equipment.

Szechuen University is rapidly attaining its goal of becoming an institution which will turn out an ever-increasing number of graduates with the best training, who will all find places in the nation's expanding reconstruction program.

CHEN CHU-LIANG

Szechuen University
Chengtu

Following liberation, like many other enterprises, the city's book stores have enjoyed good business, and the number of stores is now double the pre-liberation figure. On Sundays or holidays, nearly all the stores are packed with readers who are thirsty for new knowledge.

To meet the ever growing number of readers, several stores have set up special reading rooms for the public.

PETER LEE

Kunming, Yunnan

NO MORE PESTS

To the Editor:

The peasants in Yunnan province are ensured a bumper crop this fall as they have been successful in wiping out insects which threatened the plants.

When the insects were first discovered in Mi Le district, some superstitious farmers considered they were dropped by Heaven and dared not kill them because they thought that the harder they tried the worse it would be. An emergency meeting was called in the district and the slogan, "cadres take the lead and everyone get busy" was adopted. The peasants soon saw that when everyone worked together there was no problem in getting rid of the insects.

A similar drive took place in other parts of the province. In the village of Lu Hsi, for instance, nearly 2,000 peasants were mobilized and within two days all the insects were killed.

S. I. CHANG

Kunming, Yunnan

Democratic

GERMAN REPORT

a fortnightly published by John Peet, chronicles developments in the German Democratic Republic.

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BOUND VOLUMES

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China Monthly Review
160 Yenan Road, East
Shanghai, 0, China

The Month in Review

Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference

The Peace Conference

FROM the Peace Conference of Asian and Pacific Regions has come the call of three quarters of mankind—1,600,000,000 people—for peace. From October second to twelfth, 429 persons from 46 countries, including delegates, observers and guests, came together in Peking and decided upon concrete proposals for putting out the fires of war now blazing in the Far East.

The 11 days of democratic discussion brought into clear focus the overwhelming desire of people from countries of widely differing political and social systems to find ways of averting the disaster of a new war which threatens the whole world. Those present were of many political and religious convictions; there were workers and peasants, businessmen and union leaders, students and educational workers, writers and artists, journalists and parliament members, women's leaders, lawyers, doctors and a host of others.

EVEN as the delegates met to talk of peace, the "cold war" exponents had long since unleashed their "hot" wars in Korea, Viet-Nam and Malaya. Heading the topics discussed at the conference, therefore, was how best to check the increasing danger of a world war which has resulted from US remilitarization of Japan, and how to put an end to the prolongation and extension of the Korean war.

It was hardly surprising that the representatives of Asian and Pacific peoples saw US government policy as the chief threat to peace, with Korea shattered, Japan's fascist militarists being rearmed, the people of Viet-Nam and Malaya subjected to war which could not continue without US backing of France and Britain, and the increased US military, political and economic encroachment upon Latin America.

However, the conference was by no means devoted to ranting denunciations of the US; issues were dealt with rationally, on the basis of the best way to find peaceful solutions of differences. The main theme was peaceful co-existence of nations, and it was made abundantly clear during the conference that US foreign policy is not only a threat to other nations, but also is against the best interests of the American people themselves.

The 16-man American delegation found the conference a rich, inspiring experience. Meeting the other delegates, taking part in meetings and discussions, they were welcomed with warm friendliness, proof that the peoples of Asia and the Pacific make a clear distinction between the American people and the aggressive acts of their government. From the Chilean businessman, the Korean poet, the Indian Congress Party member, they learned at first hand the effects of aggressive US policy, and they realized the great importance of developing and strengthening the peace movement in the US.

A chief feature of the conference was the twin strand of national independence and anti-imperialism; only with peace can the Asian and Pacific nations fulfill their desire for an end to foreign domination and the achievement of independence. In this the American delegation heard echoes of their own history, when in 1776 the founders of the United States declared their right of independence from George III's oppressive colonial policy.

THE delegates' courage and determination were reflected by the obstacles they were forced to overcome to get to Peking. Some left responsible positions; many refused to be intimidated by government restrictions on travel. A young GI gave his Korean war bonus to one US delegate, to pay part of his fare. A New Zealand street car worker got word, just after the conference closed, that he had been discharged. After the Yoshida government refused to issue passports to the Japanese delegates, they smuggled themselves to China on fishing boats. Hundreds of delegates, threatened with punishment when they returned home, were not deterred from coming to Peking, nor will they be prevented from spreading the word in their own countries that people everywhere want peace.

Never before had the peoples of the vast Pacific area come together; the conference united them for the first time. Japanese and Chinese delegates met; most significantly, Indian and Pakistan delegates, between whose countries friction has long existed, agreed upon a joint declaration. Both groups were widely representative, the Indians being headed by a veteran Congress Party leader and former economic adviser to the Nehru government, while a Moslem leader and landowner headed the Pakistan group. The declaration, which called for regular meetings by representatives of the peace movement of both countries in order to pave the way for a just solution of the Kashmir and other issues, was viewed as having historic significance for Asia.

The unprecedented meeting together of delegates from the peoples of Asia and Latin America, when they heard facts and figures which clearly showed the similarity of position of many of their countries, fettered and dominated by foreign interests, was an important achievement of the conference. When the former mayor of Bogota and leader of the delegation from Colombia referred in his report to "those countries, united by the Pacific Ocean, which the forces of war want to turn into a grave for our people's loftiest aspirations for peace," the seeds of unity in a common struggle for world peace were sown. The significance of the series of military pacts Washington has made with almost every Latin American nation was not lost upon representatives of those Asian countries which are filled with US bases and troops.

THE peace conference was not a formal, cut-and-dried affair, attended by bored diplomatic personnel; it was a forum of representatives direct from their peoples, who, in the course of their frank and spirited exchange of views, grew to know each other and strengthened their bonds of unity in the cause in which they were all passionately interested: world peace.

Simply because the conference drew together hundreds of people as various in their political views as in the color of their skin or the tongues they spoke, the dreary charge made by the Western press that the meeting was "Communist-dominated" was as ridiculous as it was false. Typical was the *Hongkong Standard's* September 27 "revelation" that the conference had opened on the 26, with Molotov presiding. The conference opened on October 2, and Molotov was not present then or later.

Any delegate to the Peace Conference can testify that the six-man Soviet group was one of the smallest present. It no more dominated the proceedings than did the Indian delegation, which, numbering more than 60, was the largest; nor did the Chinese delegation, though China was host to the conference.

True, many delegations praised new China, but such praise was the spontaneous tribute of those who saw for the first time the tremendous strides China has made since she threw off the dead weight of foreign domination and domestic oppression, which burden so many of the delegates' own countries today. The conference did not meet to praise any single way of life, nor did it make any proposal dealing solely with China's affairs.

AS a result of its 11 days of meetings and discussions, the conference worked out a series of declarations and resolutions, which were unanimously agreed upon by the delegates after thorough discussion and revision. These were:

1. Appeal to the Peoples of the World: Pointing out that "to win and preserve peace is an urgent task which must and can be accomplished by the joint efforts of all," the Appeal concludes, "The grim prospect of war imperils the life of every man, woman and child. It is, therefore, a common duty to struggle for peace and halt the world's steady drift towards war. . ."

2. Address to the United Nations: States that while "the United Nations was founded to save mankind 'from the scourge of war,' . . . it has failed in

its duty," and calls upon "member states to defend and implement the principles of the Charter."

3. Resolution on the Korean Question: The continuation of the Korean war creates the danger of its extension; both sides must cease hostilities at once and repatriate all prisoners of war; all foreign troops must be withdrawn from Korea.

4. Resolution on the Japanese Question: Calls for the conclusion of a genuine overall peace treaty with Japan, an end to the remilitarization of Japan, the withdrawal of foreign troops from Japan, and an end to foreign restrictions upon Japanese trade.

5. Resolution on the National Independence Question: Since peace and national independence are indivisible, the present foreign military occupation and control suffered by many countries must end; the independence of all countries must be respected; aggressive wars must end; occupation troops must be withdrawn; each country must govern its own natural resources; free trade must be guaranteed.

6. Resolution on Cultural Exchange: Points out that cultural exchange aids mutual understanding, which dispels fear and distrust, and calls for the removal of all obstacles in the way of a free interflow of healthy and humane culture.

7. Resolution on Economic Relations: Points out that US government policy has led to manipulation of prices, blockade, embargo, and control of the economies of other countries, and calls for the development of trade and economic relations on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, removal of artificial barriers to international trade, and establishment of economic cooperation among nations.

8. Resolution on Women's Rights and Child Welfare: The women and children of many countries are suffering hunger and death as the consequence of war, but as "women, who give life, are the enemies of war," the women of the world are called upon to unite to gain peace and full equality.

9. Resolution on Five-Power Peace Pact: Calls upon the Asian and Pacific peoples to intensify the campaign for a peace pact between the US, the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, Great Britain and France.

10. Resolution on the Congress of the Peoples for Peace: Calls upon all sections of the people and all political, social and religious organizations of the Asian and Pacific countries to rally the people to prepare for the Congress, to be held in Vienna in December.

11. Resolution on a Peace Liaison Committee: Resolves to establish a permanent liaison body, to link the peace movements of Pacific and Asian countries.

THE conference closed on a note of determination, the delegates strong in their purpose to return to their homes and work for the realization of the measures for peace which they had decided upon. The resolutions adopted will speed the work for peace; the conference itself was solid proof of the strength of the peace movement in this part of the world.

The fact that the conference met in Peking in itself helped to strengthen the movement for peace; for conditions in many countries are hardly different from those in the dark days of old China, yet all around them the delegates could see the concrete achievements, the face and spirit of a people who have stood up.

This conference has made clear to the whole world that the people of these regions are sure of themselves in the fight for peace. They hate those who are trying to instigate a new war, but they do not fear them; they know that the vast majority want peace, and that they can never be conquered. Peace will come on the terms of the resolutions adopted, which revolve around the conviction that all nations can live in peaceful co-existence. Keys to this are an end to the war in Korea, to the revival of Japanese militarism, to the colonial wars in Viet-Nam and Malaya.

Two weeks in Peking have brought the clear realization to the participants in the peace conference that everywhere mankind wants peace. All but an insignificant minority stand to profit by war. The people want peace, not destruction; they want peace because it is vital to the raising of living standards and the wiping out of poverty and hunger; they want peace because it is necessary to a free interflow of trade and a free exchange of culture; they want peace because it is essential for their right to live their own lives in the way they deem best; they want a real peace because it is the only basis upon which a truly prosperous, cultured, humane existence, free of death and destruction, can be built.

◆

FRONT COVER

A paper cut-out showing the desire of the Chinese people for peace.

The Peace Conference

THE great majority of the delegates to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference came from capitalist and colonial countries. Men and women of different nationality, social status and occupation—scholars, writers, poets, artists, journalists, lawyers, businessmen and religious leaders of all faiths—they signified the broad scope of the conference. Coming from homes thousands of miles away, crossing continents and oceans, for two weeks they lived and worked amidst the beauties of new Peking.

Ready to receive them was the modern steel-framed eight story Peking Peace Hotel, the highest building in the city. The rooms were comfortably furnished in modern Chinese style; original paintings by famous artists decorated the walls; and pillows, napkins, silver and dishes carried the emblem of peace, the famous Picasso dove. Every comfort was afforded the guests. Fresh fruit was supplied daily, and the delegates were delighted by the excellent Chinese and foreign cuisine in the two dining halls.

From the glassed-in eighth floor dining hall, a magnificant view unfolded, over the golden tiles of the ancient roofs, to the distant Temple of Heaven. The delegates were astonished at the speed with which the building had sprung up from a partial framework in 44 days' time. Architect Henry Willcox, one of the US delegates, after examining the building could only refer to it as "a miracle."

DURING the conference the delegates saw in Peking the atmosphere of new China. When not attending conference sessions, they went about the city as they pleased; and the doubters, who at first wondered if the clean lanes in the vicinity of their hotel were only "show," soon found out that the nation-wide clean up drive reached into every corner.

The banquet to which Chairman Mao Tse-tung invited the delegates on the eve of the October 1 National Day celebrations was an expression of real democracy. They will long remember their hosts' warmth and good fellowship as Commander-in-Chief Chu Teh, Premier and Foreign Minister Chou En-lai, Soong

Ching-ling (Mme. Sun Yat-sen) and others went from table to table in the great hall, offering toasts to world peace and friendship. The roster of more than 1,000 guests included diplomats, China's model workers from farm and factory, representatives of minority groups, and People's Liberation Army heroes.

The National Day celebration was a colorful and memorable spectacle, with nearly 500,000 Chinese people, from all strata of society, parading through the great square before Tien An Men, the Gate of Heavenly Peace. Here, on a bright autumn day, the delegates glimpsed the unity and might of today's China. The flight of jet planes, which concluded the military demonstration, elicited astonished comment from some of the delegates.

Civilian groups formed the greater part of the parade: 10,000 gaily-dressed boys and girls strode excitedly past the reviewing stand, straining to catch sight of Chairman Mao, as a great flock of doves was released and the delegates burst into a spontaneous ovation. Then came students, housewives, cultural and religious groups, businessmen, government workers, industrial workers, and peasants. The most popular slogan was "Long live world peace!" That night, many of the delegates joined the thousands dancing in the square before

Kuo Mo-jo, deputy leader of the Chinese Delegation, making a general report on "Let Us Unite to Defend Peace," at the Conference.

Louis W. Wheaton, head of US delegation and Madame Olga Poblete, head of Chilean delegation are embracing the Young Pioneers who presented bouquets to the delegates.

the brilliantly illuminated Tien An Men.

THE conference convened on October 2 in a spacious buff-colored building which had been an emperor's villa in the days of the Imperial City. The site of the first People's Political Consultative Conference, which founded the People's Republic of China on October 1, 1949, it had been renovated and enlarged for the present conference. The hall, with its scarlet lacquered columns, hung with tasseled festival lanterns, rang with the applause and cheers of the hundreds assembled as they expressed the desire of their peoples for peace in no uncertain terms.

One moving incident was the joint declaration of the Indian and Pakistan delegations calling for a peaceful settlement of their nations' disputes, which was signed on the rostrum and drew thunderous applause. Another was the presentation of gifts by the US delegation to the Korean delegation. Amid heartfelt applause, the Americans presented a small tree to the Koreans with the following message:

"We of the American people who admire bravery and hate cruelty, ask that you will plant in the soil of Korea, soil made holy by the blood of a heroic people, this small tree. May it grow as the friendship of our peoples grows . . . until it shelters under its green

New Zealand delegates to the Peace Conference being welcomed at the railway station in Peking.

boughs, in safety and beauty and peace, the children of your children."

WATCHING from the press section vividly brought home to the observer the broadly inclusive character of the conference. To the right were seated the Pakistan, Nicaragua, Mongolia and Syria-Lebanon delegations, on each desk the appropriate national flag. Directly below was the stars and stripes of the US delegation.

As the hall filled, delegates as widely separated geographically as tiny Panama and great China began to take their seats. A coal miner from New Zealand would be talking to a woman lawyer from Mexico, an Australian churchman with a leading Chinese Christian, a Filipino-American girl with a woman from Korea; one saw the head of a Viet-Nam Buddhist monastery shaking hands with the Negro head of the US delegation. At one meeting the presidium included a Japanese, an American, a Mexican, a Chinese, a Ceylonese and an Indian; at others different nationalities were represented.

With the conference, the fight for world peace has taken a firm step forward. During the sessions the delegates discovered a new strength in the struggle for peace, and it was brought home to them that this struggle, in Colombia, in Viet-Nam, in Australia, in the US, is part of the same thread which weaves through all countries. What they have seen and experienced can never be shaken by those who distort the truth about China and the peace movement.

AFTER the conference, the delegates visited many sections of the vast country. They have seen with their own eyes the great changes which have taken place in a nation whose people not long ago suffered the same indignities and misery which so many of their own countries are burdened with today. They have seen old and new cities, factories, cooperatives, villages and the countryside after land reform, and great reconstruction projects. They have deeply felt the peaceful spirit of new China.

For the majority of the delegates, coming from countries where there is little chance to get the truth about China, this has been a revelation. They have nailed the lie that the conference was to be dominated by "Communists," just as they have nailed the lies that have been spread about new China. They were received as fighters for peace and honored guests by the people of China, whether they came from Viet-Nam or from the US, the stronghold of capitalism.

When the delegates return to their homelands they will have much to tell about the new life they have seen in China and how many people of various backgrounds met and united in the fight for peace. And they are strong in the knowledge that the people of the nations represented at the conference are determined to live in peace.

Women delegates have a friendly talk during an interval of the session.

TOWN-MEETING DEMOCRACY

One little-publicized aspect of last month's Asian and Pacific Peace Conference was how it worked, its day-to-day procedure. The following description of the conference's working methods is written by the Review's editor, who attended all of the full conference sessions and all meetings of one commission and sub-commission.

* * *

RIGHT from the beginning the conference took on something of the atmosphere of an old New England town meeting, despite the fact that it was a large body as conferences go, totaling 429 delegates, observers and guests, plus quite a few staff members brought along by the various delegations.

While the meetings were run along regular parliamentary lines of procedure, the chair—which rotated two or three times a day from one delegation to another—never once resorted to parliamentary maneuvers or technicalities in order to further this or that special interest or to prevent any point of view from being put before the conference. It was clear from the outset that everyone could have his say, and several dozen speakers, representing virtually every delegation present, did just that.

The first six or seven days were taken up with scheduled reports by various delegations and by a number of speeches. The last four or five days of the conference were divided between regular sessions and the various commission and sub-commission meetings. The way the commissions (comparable to the panels common to conferences in the West) worked was rather startling.

* * *

IN the first place, every single delegate had the opportunity to serve on at least one commission; in practice virtually all did, and a few managed to attend at least some meetings of other commissions. Secondly, the commission meetings were textbook examples of democratic procedure.

Members were specifically urged to state their views on the conference declarations under discussion. If a member remained silent through more than one meeting, the chairman was almost certain to ask if the delegation from this or that country didn't wish to express an opinion.

After the first session, the suggestions were given to a sub-commission, elected from its membership by the commission, to draw up in outline form. The outline was subsequently brought back to the full commission for amendments and further suggestions. Then the sub-commission prepared the first draft of the resolution, which was again presented to the full commission for revision.

In some commissions, the process was repeated three and four times until every single commission member felt that he could endorse the resolution. This involved a lot of give and take and exchange of views and slowed down the process quite a bit but resulted in the final draft passing the commission without a single dissenting vote.

The draft then went to the presidium, which was made up of representatives from the various delegations. In most cases the draft passed the presidium—in which the rule of unanimity also prevailed—without alteration; and in such cases where changes were felt called for, they were in the nature of language or emphasis, rather than on content or basic principle.

* * *

THE final stage was the closing session of the conference when the drafts were submitted for final revision and approval by the entire conference membership. This gave each indivi-

Town-meeting Democracy . . .

dual delegate an opportunity to examine and give an opinion on all the conference resolutions, although each delegation had generally been pretty closely posted on the progress of the resolutions by members of that delegation serving on the various drafting commissions and on the presidium.

Since there had already been such exhaustive discussion and examination of the drafts, it was generally felt that the declarations would be passed and the session ended in fairly short order. However, when the draft declaration on National Independence came to the floor the first hitch of the session occurred. The chairman called for comment and there seemed to be none forthcoming so he asked for the vote. It appeared that everybody in the hall had his hand up, but at this point there was a slight commotion in one of the front rows and a member of the Australian delegation, Canon Maynard, vicar of St. Peter's in Melbourne, rose and went to the speakers platform and said he was sorry, but he could not vote for the declaration as he was dissatisfied with part of it.

Canon Maynard's lone objection, made as it was with considerable firmness, seemed certain to spoil the record of unanimity which was being aimed for, as there appeared no way out at that late date. However, the chairman at that point, Peking's Mayor Peng Chen who is also vice-chairman of the China Peace Committee, asked the delegates if they would agree to withhold the vote on this resolution for a while and allow the chair to appoint a special committee to confer with Canon Maynard and see if some solution could be reached.

The delegates agreed and the meeting went on to the next declaration. A short while later Canon Maynard and the other members of the special committee returned to the conference hall and announced that agreement, subject to approval by the whole conference, had been reached. Two changes in the declaration were submitted to the conference and accepted by the delegates and the declaration was unanimously passed.

The remaining declarations were then passed, some with no further discussion, some after varying amounts of comment, some after a few last-minute amendments proposed by one or more delegations from the floor. The closing session of the conference thus ended with all declarations passed unanimously.

* * *

IT was a moment of considerable dramatic intensity when this elderly Anglican vicar stood up and said that he was embarrassed to be the lone dissenter but that his conscience would not let him vote for the resolution as it stood. It was heightened when the chairman asked the delegates to postpone the vote so that a final attempt might be made to reach ageement with this one man. The climax was reached when a smiling Canon Maynard and other committee members returned to announce that satisfactory compromise had been achieved.

The more we thought about this method of running a conference, especially the idea of unanimity in all decisions, the more we wondered why it didn't get into continuous snarls, particularly considering the wide range of interests, occupations, religions, economic status and political views of the various delegates.

We asked this question of several people—delegates, observers and old time reporters covering the conference. The standard answer, or at least the basic part of the answer in each case, was that these people all had one thing in common—their desire and need for peace.

The conference was a lesson in democracy and shows what people of good will are capable of accomplishing. It also demonstrates something else: the power and appeal of the idea of peace to all kinds of people living in all parts of the world.

—*JOHN W. POWELL*

As the Delegates See It

THE Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference in Peking during the first half of October was a meeting of historic significance. Some 400 men and women of good will, representing the peace workers in countries with a total population of 1,600,000,000 people, met and discussed the prospects for world peace.

The following brief excerpts from statements and speeches made at the conference by a number of delegates are typical in that they reflect the general attitude of the conferees—a common desire for peace between the nations of the world. The speakers themselves are also typical in that they constitute a cross section of the world public, coming from various classes of society, occupations and religious and political beliefs.

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SOONG CHING-LING (China; widow of Sun Yat-sen, China's beloved republican leader): The great majority of people everywhere want peace. They do not want to see their sweat and blood poured into moulding products that destroy others and later come back to destroy them.

DIEGO MONTANA CUELLAR (Colombia; professor, lawyer, and former mayor of Bogata): One of the essential tasks of this great assembly of the peoples of Asia and the Pacific is, in our opinion, to undertake all measures to ensure that the great people of Lincoln and Jefferson decisively express their opinion against the war which is being waged without taking their desires into account, without defending their general interests and which is mortgaging their destiny.

REV. CANON FARNHAM E. MAYNARD (Vicar of St. Peter's, Melbourne, Australia): I am a delegate from Australia, a country now dominated by American financial pressure. I do not believe the Australian people approve of the frustration of the intention of other Australian delegates to attend this conference. I do not believe that they approve of the remilitarization of Japan.

HAN SUL YA (Korea; writer): The people of the countries that have sent us here earnestly hope that, with an honest and sincere attitude and in a spirit of friendly consultation, we may be able to devise measures at this conference to safeguard lasting peace in the Asian and Pacific regions and thus dispel the sufferings of war and the threat of war to which they are subjected.

JACOBO SHAGIAN (Mexico; businessman): A historic conference not only for businessmen or peace lovers but for all human beings of every social class with only the exception of those circles who want to make business out of war.

PIR MANKI SHARIF (Pakistan; well known Moslem priest): It is most gratifying that this conference has provided an opportunity to the representatives of the peace movements of Pakistan and India to discuss this problem [Kashmir] and I earnestly hope that this small beginning made towards an amicable settlement will yield the result desired by the peace-loving people of Pakistan, India and the whole world.

VITAL MURILLO (Costa Rica; Catholic): The delegation from my country wanted me, as a Christian and a Catholic, to make a contribution here, dealing with the problem of peace. . . I don't know and I don't want to know who launched the Peace Appeal. It is enough for me that it is a summons from history, a summons which imposes on us a good work which all mankind so urgently needs.

SUROSO (Indonesia; journalist): The unity of the peoples of the countries of Southeast Asia in the struggle for peace, with the object of developing peaceful and fair economic relations, will serve materially to promote the conclusion of trade agreements between various countries and peoples.

CHATUR NARAIN MALAVIYA (India; Congress Party member of Indian Parliament): Today when the war is raging on the soil of Asia and is threatening us most, I say with all the emphasis at my command that we, the people of Asia, most earnestly desire peace—peace here and now, and demand that a Five Power Pact be concluded immediately.

LOUIS W. WHEATON (U.S.A.; machinist): The peoples of our area differ from each other in many ways, but they have one need and interest in common. That is peace. War not only shatters our hopes for the future; it not only means suffering and death; it destroys what has been built by the hard labor, the skill and the genius of each people. . . . The world needs relief from tension and crisis; it needs the peaceful competition in which each people could contribute freely to the solution of the problems of all.

The Huai River:

NO MORE FLOODS

Rewi Alley

AT Hofei, the capital of Anhwei province, an area which for centuries has been the scene of great floods, we alighted at a fine new railway station, were welcomed by members of the Peace Committee and Young Pioneers with flowers, and went off with a flourish down the broadened, well-paved streets. Yesterday Hofei was a derelict city, today it is a thriving place of 180,000 people, and tomorrow? Tomorrow the sky's the limit, judging by plans for all kinds of new constructions and improvements. A hundred acres outside the city is already covered with the buildings of the new Provincial Medical College and Hospital which will soon be ready to take its first 1,000 students.

We left Hofei early next morning and were soon speeding towards the hills to the southwest, the Da Bieh Shan. In this area one of the principal reservoirs of the Huai River Conservancy Plan was being placed, at Fu Tze Ling.

For many years Da Bieh Shan was a guerilla center, whose people have never taken to exploitation. In the thirties, guerillas kept up the fight against the Japanese invaders and later against the Kuomintang (KMT).

It is a lovely thing to enter this area on a summer's day. Hilltops are covered with firs through which clouds in mist lie, like an ancient Chinese painting; bamboo groves with smoke from a peasant's cottage going straight up through them, a broad swift river with long rafts, peasants bringing up timber for a construction job. Under the KMT the mountains here had been completely stripped and it is something new to see timber being brought back to the area. Yet here today is hardwood from Inner Mongolia, long pine poles from the Min River in Fukien, crates of machinery from Shanghai, all coming up on shallow rafts, poled by chanting boatmen.

The welcome at Fu Tze Ling was something terrific. We were ferried over the river sitting in our jeeps and there on the Fu Tze Ling side were representatives of the workers, the peasants, the army, and a very efficient brass band playing gaily. Engineer Wang, quiet and competent looking, had taken time off to come and greet us and later we met secretary Chang, once a guerilla leader in this region, with long experience of local conditions and people.

We were taken to lunch, after which Engineer Wang told us something of the job in hand—of the drainage area of 1,840 square kilometers, of the start on the building of a reservoir dam 65 meters high, making allowance for earthquakes common in the region, to hold 4.7 *yi* cubic meters of catchment water (an *yi* is a hundred million).

The total amount of water to be conserved in this and other schemes is to be some 50 *yi* cubic meters. The dam will be 515 meters long. The present river rises very fast during the heavy rains and flows uncontrolled into the Huai, adding to the flood menace. The dam will check this and will also provide electric power for the neighborhood.

THE first stages of the work have been completed. Power plants, a sawmill, hospital, machine shop, printing works, clinics, night schools for workers and a day school for their children, pumping stations, compressed air stations are all there —in short, all that goes to make up a temporary industrial city manned by a peace army in the wilderness. It is estimated that the job will be completed within one year.

After lunch, and again in the evening, we went out to the work sites. Men work in eight-hour shifts and as one gang goes off another comes on. The carrying of earth never stops, the jack hammers never cease their tapping. We went to see the plant where drill points are sharpened in a modern press and ground and trued up afterwards by the workers who have come from Shanghai to help the local farmers and armymen on the job. Each technical worker who has come in from outside the

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New Zealander Rewi Alley, who has been in China more than 25 years, was one of his country's delegates to the recent Asian and Pacific Peace Conference in Peking. His article describes the visit he made to one of the construction sites of the great Huai River Conservancy Project, which, with its system of reservoirs, locks, canals and dikes, has ended forever the yearly menace of flood for the 15,000,000 people who live in the Huai River basin.—Editor.

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area undertakes to teach his technique to a local man working with him.

Mao Sheng-chun's story was typical. He was a member of a poor North Kiangsu family and started to earn his living as a weaver at the age of 14. Later he became a cement worker and it is in this work that he now leads at Fu Tze Ling. He says his family has been given 13 *mou* of land (a *mou* is one-sixth of an acre) following land reform and they are better off now than they have ever been. To learn how to work, he feels, is the important thing, whether as a cement worker or a weaver. "Even a loom is not so simple as it looks," he says, "and has to be handled in the right way."

WE went around to the men's living quarters. In one hut we thought that the workers were playing a game of cards, but when we looked closer we saw that it was quite a new kind of card game. Each card bore a Chinese character and the game was for each man to identify the characters dealt him. Inventive minds have thought up many new ways such as these to combat illiteracy.

Secretary Chang who took us around on this occasion pointed out the soldier or farmer students working with each technician. "There is one big advantage of a job like this one," he said. "It produces more trained technical workers for the still bigger jobs to come." People who show special ability, he told us, are sent off to get higher schooling so that whatever gifts they have can get the fullest chance of development.

In the evening the workers gave a performance to welcome the foreign visitors. One colorful group dance given by the farmers showed various aspects of their work and was rendered with great spirit. Chinese peasant youth has a natural grace which the teachers had very ably drawn out, and this show would have been a hit on any big city stage. The cement workers, with an old, strong-faced Shanghai group leader in charge, put on a mass chant drama.

The secretary brought along some of the curios that have been unearthed during excavations. There was some Sung Dynasty pottery and a very excellent mirror, probably T'ang, with a fine patina on it. Curios are carefully looked after and sent to the Provincial Museum in Hofei for storing and display.

I was surprised at the absence of flies and mosquitoes throughout this big camp. In earlier days swarms of insects interfered with one's enjoyment of China's summer scenery, but this seems to have been relegated to the past. Squads of lads go through all rooms each day, spraying and disinfecting, seeing that no refuse collects, that latrines have lids over the holes and that these are properly replaced.

Down where the stone and sand went to one mixer there was a young girl of 19 or so working with the men under the powerful electric lights. On inquiry I found her to be a newspaper correspondent who put in shifts with the workers in order to get better understanding of the job she was assigned to write about.

Cultural and political study take up an hour and a half of each worker's day, above the eight-hour period on the job. This is essential because it enables each one to understand why he is working and for what. Without this understanding it would be impossible to get the whole-hearted intelligent cooperation which is the secret of the seeming miracles of construction we see going on around us here.

Of the 20,000 "peace fighters," as the workers on this job like to call themselves, many are soldiers who have long and honorable records, having taken part in the liberation of many cities, in land reform and other movements.

PLA men operating concrete mixers.

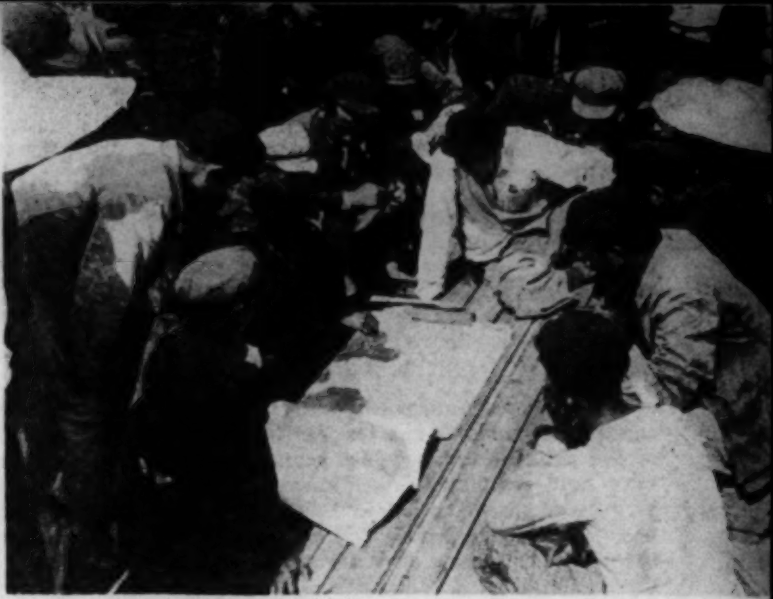
THE following morning I met two great women of the Huai River Conservancy work. Chin Shiu-lan and Li Su-ying are quiet, modest girls, able to speak when speech is necessary, sure of the new society and of their place in it. They had come down to Hofei from their training school so we were able to meet them there and talk with them about their lives and work.

Li Su-ying's parents had a small medicine shop, and she was the only child. How to get enough to eat was a constant problem. Married at 17, she had two children before her husband was dragged off by the Kuomintang army leaving her to fend for herself, two babies and a dying father. Forced out of her home, she made mud bricks, found reeds and built a hut for herself and her family. Speaking of those times she wept, but quickly recovering, went on with her tale. She told how KMT local heads sucked the villages dry of their goods and cash, how if money was not forthcoming there would be brutal beatings, how she herself just before liberation was beaten until she could hardly walk because she would not give herself to KMT soldiers. She spoke of the cruel cold of the winters without padded clothing, and again how the soldiers came, looting and beating up the people.

Then came liberation at last and in spite of the severe floods of that first year, everywhere ways opened for the poor. The start of the Huai River flood control and irrigation work put new hope into all hearts, and as the work began to bear fruit, new confidence.

Describing her work here Li Su-ying said. "We found many new ways of speeding up work. Work that had taken 20 days we did in four." She led in carrying light railway track, in showing the other girls what they could do. They went bare-legged into the icy river to do jobs the men did not want to do. They led with the singing of songs and the organizing of social life. And looking at her keen, able face one realized that she could do all of these things well. She had been steeled in a hard school, had learned how to stand up on her own feet since she was nine, not just taking but giving and working for whatever she got.

Then, crowning her long struggle, she was elected Labor Héroine and sent to Peking to be honored by being made a special member of the People's Consultative Conference. The desire to learn, to become literate, was strong in her so that when her request to go to school was granted, she went off with Chin Shiu-lan and has already mastered enough characters to be



Engineers and workers get together to discuss problems on the job.

able to read. Li Su-ying is now 25, and her husband is fighting with the Chinese Volunteers in Korea. "We write each other letters and encourage each other," she says with pride.

"THE Kuomintang and the Japanese conscripted us to go and build these!" said a farmer, pointing to a cement pillbox along the railway line. "Now we go to do construction work on the Huai by ourselves, with no one to drive us. The imperialists are fools!" And looking at the squat pillbox, with long grass reaching up around it, then further along another which was being demolished by a group of voluntary workers to make a latrine, one agreed.

"We have saved the project 20 *yi* by running the pumps with motors instead of the gasoline engines, nine *yi* on fixing drill bits for the boring machines, 20 *yi* on a better method of shifting sand" . . . and on the list went.

The party secretary at Fu Tze Ling was evidently very proud of these accomplishments and of the creative thought of the workers which had inspired them. He told us how workers wept when a big flood came and carried away some precious timber, how one had been injured in trying to save it. "It is our material, our own work, so we of course are very sad when we have losses," they said.

He was quite proud also of the low bridge the workers had constructed over the river—the result of many ideas pooled. The big floods that come after each rain pass over the top of it and after a few hours the bridge can be used again, when the water subsides as quickly as it has arisen. The first plan called for a bridge costing more than 20 *yi*, but this one was built for less than one.

When one realizes that 127 Shanghai machine shops were engaged in turning out the 7,000 tons of steel work of just one of the projects finished last year, that three of the 18 reservoirs have been completed, dikes raised, locks built, a hill cut through to provide direct access to Lake Hung Tse, how lakes are being used for storage basins for water, how land that had not been sown for 15 years, now irrigated and freed forever from the terrible menace of flood, is already yielding rich harvests of cotton and grain—then some idea of the scope of this work begins to be comprehended.

Yesterday, down on the edge of the Huai, we went to talk with some of the boatmen who had been engaged in the terrific task of hauling stone and sand, iron and steel, machinery and supplies to the first of the great works. Altogether 40,000 boats, large and small, are in the service of the conservancy project. Amongst these are 100 or so small steamboats manned mostly by Shanghai men, and it was one of these we boarded to interview two leaders of a crew which had broken all records in transporting material. Not a big crew—seven in all, two in the engine room and the rest on deck.

Two leaders had been born on boats in the Whangpoo River and spent their lives on the water, as had the captain of one of the bigger junks which hauled 75 tons of gravel and sand up to projects each time. The latter was a Huai River boatman with terrific enthusiasm for new China. "Sure, we get stuck in the shallows, and have trouble many ways, but nowadays we stick together and together we get over all our difficulties."

One felt that if one could live with these boatmen for a while many a good story would came to light that would paint a new picture of man's struggle for peace and construction, a picture that many of the silent workers of our world would understand.

U.S. Germ Warfare

• Report of International Scientists' Commission

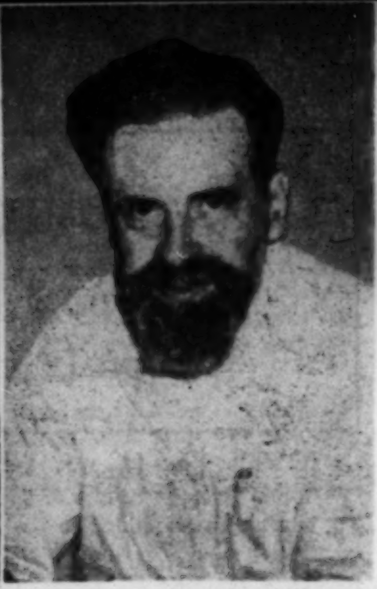
THE full weight of the findings of a group of Western scientists has been added to the already voluminous mass of evidence that the US has resorted to germ warfare against the people of Korea and China. After more than two months' work in the field, the International Scientific Commission for Investigation of the Facts Concerning Bacteriological Warfare in Korea and China concluded its 300,000-word report with the following words:

> **"The peoples of Korea and China have indeed been the objectives of bacteriological weapons. These have been employed by units of the USA armed forces, using a great variety of different methods for the purpose, some of which seem to be developments of those applied by the Japanese army during the second world war.**
>
> **"The Commission reached these conclusions, passing from one logical step to another. It did so reluctantly because its members had not been disposed to believe that such an inhuman technique could have been put into execution in the face of its universal condemnation by the peoples of the nations.**
>
> **"It is now for all peoples to redouble their efforts to preserve the world from war and prevent the discoveries of science being used for the destruction of humanity."**

THE Commission was formed following the Oslo Meeting of the World Peace Council and at the invitation of Kuo Mo-jo, President of the Academia Sinica and Chairman of the Chinese People's Committee for World Peace. Members of the Commission, which arrived in Peking late in June, are as follows:

DR. ANDREA ANDREEN (Sweden), Director of the Cen-

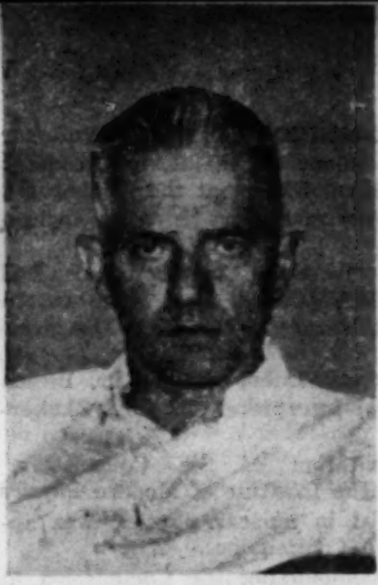
Dr. Andrea Andreen (Sweden)



Prof. Jean Malterre (France)

Dr. Joseph Needham (U.K.)

Dr. Oliviero Olivo (Italy)



Dr. Samuel B. Pessoa (Brazil)

Dr. N. N Zhukov-Verezhnikov (USSR)

tral Clinical Laboratory of the Hospitals Board of the city of Stockholm.

M. JEAN MALTERRE (France), Ing. Agri., Director of the Laboratory of Animal Physiology, National College of Agriculture, Grignon; formerly livestock expert, UNRRA; corresponding member of the Italian and Spanish Societies of Animal Husbandry.

DR. JOSEPH NEEDHAM (U.K.), FRS, Sir William Dunn Reader in Biochemistry, University of Cambridge; formerly Counsellor (Scientific), HBM Embassy, Chungking, and later Director of the Department of Natural Sciences, UNESCO. As head of the Sino-British Scientific Office in Chungking in 1943, he took part in the investigations of germ warfare waged by the Japanese against China.

DR. OLIVIERO OLIVO (Italy), Professor of Human Anatomy in the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Bologna; formerly Lecturer in General Biology, University of Turin.

DR. SAMUEL B. PESSOA (Brazil), Professor of Parasitology at the University of Sao Paulo; formerly Director of Public Health for the state of Sao Paulo; Honorary Professor in the Faculties of Medicine of the Universities of Recife and Paraiba.

DR. N. N. ZHUKOV-VEREZHNIKOV (USSR), Professor of Bacteriology at, and Vice-President of, the Soviet Academy of Medicine; formerly Chief Medical Expert at the Khabarovsk trial of Japanese ex-servicemen accused of participating in bacteriological warfare.

Apart from the above six members the Commission also had the services of **DR. FRANCO GRAZIOSI** (Italy), Assistant in the Institute of Microbiology, University of Rome as Observer-Consultant; and

Mrs. S. B. Pessoa, Secretary-Interpreter to Dr. Pessoa and **Mr. N. A. Kowalski,** Secretary-Interpreter to Dr. Zhukov-Verezhnikov.

Upon the unanimous invitation of the Commission, **Dr. Tsien San-tsiang,** Director of the Institute of Modern Physics of Academia Sinica and specialist in nuclear physics, was appointed Liaison Member for the Commission.

On the Chinese side, accompanying the Commission to Northeast China and Korea were:

Liao Cheng-chih, Vice-Chairman of the Committee of Reception and Member of the World Peace Council;

Kung Nai-chuan, Secretary-General of the Committee of Reception, Surgeon;

Dr. Chi Su-hua, Assistant Secretary-General of the Committee of Reception, Surgeon;

And the following six Specialist Liaison Officers:

Members of the Commission investigating metal and porcelain containers dropped by US aircraft in Northeast China.

Dr. Chung Hui-lan, Epidemiologist; **Dr. Wu Tsai-tung,** Pathologist; **Dr. Fang Kang,** Bacteriologist; **Dr. Chu Hung-fu,** Entomologist; **Dr. Yang Shih-ta,** Public Health Specialist and **Dr. Yen Jen-ying,** Obstetrician and Gynaecologist.

FROM June 23 to July 9 the Commission devoted most of its time to preparing for the on-the-spot investigations. During this period members of the Commission carefully studied the documents already issued by the Chinese and Korean side and carried on discussion on the scientific problems concerning methods of bacteriological warfare. On July 10 the Commission left Peking for Mukden where they spent two weeks in exhaustive investigations and research into facts concerning the waging of bacteriological warfare by US forces in Northeast China.

On July 26 the Commission left for Korea and returned to Mukden on August 6. In Pyongyang the Commission carefully investigated the bacteriological warfare waged against Korea by US forces.

During their investigations, sometimes under great difficulty and danger, these scientists conducted profound, first-hand research. They made on-the-spot investigations, examining specimens, interrogating hundreds of witnesses, and made a number of field inspections.

It was in this period that the Commission met captured US airmen, who admitted that they had dropped germ bombs.

After returning to Peking on August 9, the Commission began to draft its report. This task was completed by the end of August, and on August 31 a press conference was held for 20 reporters and correspondents of Chinese and foreign newspapers.

One of the questions raised at the press conference was: "What are the chief grounds on which the Commission confirmed the fact that the US has been waging germ warfare in Korea and Northeast China?

In reply, the British member of the Commission, Professor Joseph Needham, said: "We did not have the good fortune, if I might so express it, to see anything falling from the air ourselves. But we collected enough evidence, making on-the-spot investigations, interrogating witnesses, carrying out scientific tests of material evidence, checking specimens in laboratories and doing statistical research. We met quite a number of scientists and talked to many witnesses who themselves had seen the American planes dropping germ bombs. We conceived the greatest respect for the scientific probity and professional capacity of these scientists. Then there were the masses of countryfolk who came to us and told us what they had seen and found, and here we stood on equally certain ground. They never pretended to know what they do not know. If they did not know the answers to a question put to them they did not invent something which afterwards would not check with facts verified from other sources. We also investigated the earlier facts which had been the basis for the documents issued by the World Peace Council from Prague. We succeeded in clarifying the scientific material which laid the basis for these documents. Furthermore, the Commission made thorough detailed investigations and confirmed the facts of germ warfare waged by the USA. This material you will find in our report."

Commission members study the pathologic changes brought about in the lungs and brains of victims of anthrax disseminated by American planes.

WHY U.S. POW's ADMIT USING GERM WARFARE

FOUR captured United States Air Force officers have admitted dropping germ-laden bombs over North Korea since the beginning of 1952. These four men—1st Lieut. Kenneth L. Enoch, 1st Lieut. John S. Quinn, 2nd Lieut. Floyd B. O'Neal and 2nd Lieut. Paul R. Kniss—have made detailed statements in their own handwriting describing the lectures and other instructions they received on germ warfare and the germ bomb raids they personally carried out. They have also made wire recordings telling of these events, as well as recordings of a question and answer session with the International Scientific Commission which recently investigated germ warfare in Korea and Northeast China.

The following interview with Wilfred Burchett, correspondent for the Paris Ce Soir who has been in Korea for nearly two years, took place in Peking during the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference. Just prior to his trip to Peking Mr. Burchett spent several days living with a group of POW's and had long, informal talks with lieutenants Enoch, Quinn, O'Neal and Kniss.

* * *

QUESTION: Mr. Burchett, you recently spent several days talking with a group of prisoners of war and were also present at the International Scientific Commission's interrogation of the four US airmen who have admitted taking part in germ warfare. What is your personal impression of the testimony?

ANSWER: I am fully convinced that they told the truth as they know it; that their testimony was honest and sincere.

QUESTION: You say the "truth as they know it." What do you mean?

ANSWER: I think they were only told part of the truth about germ warfare by their superiors—Lt. Kniss, for instance, told me several times that he was convinced that the lecturers and briefing officers only told them the minimum necessary information to satisfy their curiosity. And then—apart from Lt. O'Neal who was trained as a scientist—the airmen are just laymen who don't know the difference between bacteria, virus or toxin. But I had the feeling that these men did tell everything they knew.

QUESTION: That brings us to an important question. Why do you think these airmen gave their testimony at all?

ANSWER: I agree that is a key question, but it is difficult to answer it in just a few words. However, the decisive factor, I believe, is these airmen's complete lack of faith in their own cause, their utter disillusionment in their military superiors and in the whole system that step by step led them to drop deadly bacteria on innocent civilians.

QUESTION: Could you explain what you mean in greater detail.

ANSWER: Yes, I can give an example of what I mean. Take the case of Paul Kniss, a decent young man. His father had been an agricultural worker. Kniss had a tough time as a youth. He left school because the other boys used to laugh at his wretched clothes. He worked as an unskilled laborer and as soon as he reached the minimum age, he joined the armed forces in the Second World War. And Kniss believed in that war as a war against Fascism. He was proud to be part of it. Then this war comes along. He did not think anything particular about this one, but accepted in a vague way the official line that it was necessary to stop Communism. This was the only compensation he had for being plucked away from his young wife, and being sent to Korea. Just before he left the States he received a lecture on germ warfare, the lecturer stressing time and again that the United States was not waging germ warfare. It could—and the methods were explained—but it was not waging germ warfare. And what was more, the pilots who attended were instructed to deny on every possible occasion—in the United States, in Japan and in Korea—to deny any rumors or stories to the effect that American forces were engaged in germ warfare. A few weeks later, the day after he arrived at his base, K-46 in South Korea, he and those other pilots who arrived with him were taken into a room by the Air Group Intelligence officer. The officer locked the door and after warning the pilots that what he was going to say was top secret, he informed them that not only the US air force, but the very 18th Fighter Bomber Group to which they were attached, had been waging germ warfare since January 1 of this year. This officer, Capt. McLaughlin, then explained the methods being used by the Group and to be used by Kniss and his friends and then made them sign a statement that they would reveal nothing of what they had just heard and would not even discuss it among themselves. If they did they would be court martialled and the statement used as evidence against them.

QUESTION: And what did Kniss think of that?

ANSWER: Well, that was the point at which the US Armed Forces lost Kniss as an entirely loyal servant. He lost faith in the integrity of his superiors. As he expressed it to me—"After hearing that lecture on top of the one I had just heard before I left the States, I began to wonder for the first time who was right and who was wrong in this war. And I was soon convinced that we were the ones in the wrong."

QUESTION: What did he do about it?

ANSWER: The process of disillusionment was not yet completed. He spent a couple of months in the war. Apart from germ warfare, he was sickened at the useless slaughter. He was sickened at the lying communiques which—as he expressed it—"listed every peasant's mud hut bombed to bits as a military barracks and which classified as military targets, villages, towns and cities which they bombed blindly out of existence." The general low morale in his squadron, the moroseness of pilots coming back from germ warfare missions, the heavy drinking in the bars and the quarrels and even fist fights—all contributed to

Members of the commission interview Lt. Paul Kniss (left), captured American pilot who had dropped bacteria bombs.

his final disillusionment.

Then came the day when he was shot down. The F-86's which were supposed to have given his slower plane cover had disappeared and he was shot down by a plane of the Korean air force. A short time before, the son of General Van Fleet—the slaughterer of the Greek and Korean people—was posted as missing over Korea. Every plane in Kniss's squadron was sent out on low level flights to look for the general's son and every plane was a casualty. Two crashed on the way back, the rest were badly shot up with pilot casualties. "But they didn't send anybody to look for me," Kniss told me ironically. He added that he made up his mind that if he were ever shot down, he would tell everything he knew about germ warfare at the first opportunity.

QUESTION: And did he?

ANSWER: Yes. That's just what he did. He told the whole story the first time he was questioned about it.

QUESTION: Was Kniss typical of them all?

ANSWER: In a way yes. In the sense that they were all disillusioned. But in some cases there were a few more steps. For some of the others it was more complicated.

QUESTION: Could you give an example?

Lt. F. B. O'Neal (extreme right, standing) testifies before the commission on how he dropped germ bombs.

ANSWER: Yes, for instance Quinn. Quinn is a devout Catholic and a regular Air Force officer. He was brought up to believe that Communism was the most evil thing that existed. He was a patriot who believed that America was always right—and that if his government sent him to Korea to "stop Communism" then there must be good, just reasons for doing so. Finally, his knowledge of China was derived from "Dr. Fu Manchu" stories and films and comic strips. Chinese, to him, were opium smokers with a delight in refined tortures. They were primitive and barbarous. Quinn went through the same preliminary steps of disillusionment as did Kniss. It was hard for him to square his Christian, Catholic conscience with the appalling, senseless slaughter in which he was forced to take part. Stories of other pilots, ordered to clear roads by machine-gunning civilian refugees—even behind American lines—shocked him. And Quinn, as he told me several times, came to Korea hoping for rapid promotion, hoping that one day he would be a general.

QUESTION: When did he become disillusioned with the powers that sent him to Korea—or did he?

ANSWER: Yes, he did indeed. His last illusions were swept away after he was shot down and captured. His whole training had led him to think that the combination of Chinese and Communism must produce the most fearsome, brutalized and depraved specimens that a "Fu Manchu" nightmare could conjure up. But instead of that, what did he find? Warm-hearted, sincere people who, as soon as they captured him, threw their own coats over his shoulders when he was cold, went hungry themselves so that he was fed, shared their tobacco rations with him. During the months of captivity he was never insulted, nor maltreated in any way. On the contrary he experienced nothing but warm-hearted friendliness. And best of all, he was given books to read—a great variety of books. Books by Americans and about America that had never been in his hands before—Dreiser and Fast and others. He read about the Chinese revolution from American writers and about the War of Resistance. The disillusioning process continued. The whole pattern of the lying propaganda in the press, in the films, on the radio, became clear to him. And everything he read and experienced supplemented his own doubts and questionings of American policy from the time he arrived in Korea.

QUESTION: And so he decided to speak out about germ warfare?

ANSWER: Not immediately. Morally he wanted to, like Kniss, from the first, but because of his background he was frightened. Because of his fantastic ideas about Chinese and because he knew just how serious a crime germ warfare was, he was afraid of the punishment in store for him if he admitted he had taken part in it. On the other hand, as a regular Air Force officer, he was also afraid of reprisals against him for having disclosed military secrets of the US Armed Forces.

But Quinn, as I said earlier, is a man with moral feelings. As his moral feelings became more and more awakened, the more clearly he realized the monstrous hoax which had been perpetrated on him and millions of other Americans. His awakened moral feelings overcame his personal fears and he decided to take a stand. So Quinn spoke out. He, like all of these airmen, told me of the great sense of calm—the absolute certainty of having done the right thing—which swept over him as soon as he had taken the decision to give his testimony.

QUESTION: What about lieutenants Enoch and O'Neal?

ANSWER: First of all I'd just like to add that the experience of lieutenants O'Neal and Enoch were roughly similar to that of Quinn and Kniss.

O'Neal said he didn't want to talk at first because as a scientist he was ashamed that the world should know what American scientists were up to—breeding new diseases and new ways of spreading them.

QUESTION: One last question. What was your impression of the interviews that the Commission had with these airmen?

ANSWER: I was deeply impressed with the way the members delved into the minds of these airmen to find out just what motivated them to give their testimonies. This of course was quite apart from their interest in the technical aspects of the evidence. In the minds of the Commission members, probably was the question—why did these men talk? But finally there was no doubt in the minds of the Commission members—as they have stated in their report—as to the authenticity of the testimony confirmed by the free and relaxed way in which the airmen spoke.

Because of their scientific training and their intensive questioning, they were able to arrive within a few hours at the same sort of conclusion I had come to after many days of informal talks with these four airmen. Basically they spoke out because they are conscious that they are taking part in an unjust war.

Letter from Foochow

Sego T. H. Yang

BEFORE liberation visitors to Foochow, and even ones coming from another district in Fukien province speaking a different dialect, invariably would suffer at the hands of the local rickshaw pullers. Barely able to earn enough to keep themselves going, the rickshaw pullers would insist on an increase in price after reaching the destination.

Traffic jams would result while crowds collected to watch the familiar sight of a couple of out-of-towners, surrounded by a dozen rickshaws and their pullers, in the midst of a heated argument over price.

All this has changed since liberation. The pullers behave quite differently. They have organized a guild and both their political and civic understanding has grown. They now park in rows in specially marked areas instead of being scattered all over the streets, so that a customer simply takes the one in front. All the men carry a printed table of fares on which prices for all distances are set down so that there is no bargaining and no arguments.

Shopping also used to be a source of irritation in Foochow. There was a favorite saying here that you could always offer half the price asked. That was a fair guide when one entered a shop, but with hawkers and pedlers one never really knew where one stood, for the price quoted often as not would be five or six times that which they would be ready to sell for. Thus, in the old days, a stranger to Foochow, unless he was accompanied by someone who knew the ropes, was sure to be imposed upon.

Beginning with liberation price tags in shops have come into vogue. Partly through education and partly because of the government's insistence that all merchants keep honest books, and through the adoption of more modern business methods, all merchants have begun to change their old ways. There is also a tendency toward uniformity of prices. Tradesmen are beginning to realize that it is the volume of turnover and not the excessive profit on a few transactions which they should aim at, and that cheating the customer is not only unfair but a poor business policy.

The old practice of using short weights has disappeared after several cases were brought to light and dealt with. Standard weights are now placed at the entrance to all market squares so that housewives may verify the weight of their purchases.

FOOCHOW has long been noted for its natural hot springs which, because of their sulphur and other mineral content, are supposed to be of great aid to sufferers from skin diseases. All bathhouses are clustered in the eastern part of the city where it only requires the digging of a few feet into the ground to reach steaming hot water.

Because of their easy accessibility, such spring wells are usually worked with a bucket tied to the end of a bamboo pole and the water is carried by open bamboo pipes.

These bathhouses long were rendezvous for businessmen to talk over transactions, the tired ones resting for hours on end while getting massaged, their hair cut and food brought in.

However, before liberation these bathhouses were havens for prostitutes and many had become focal points of distribution of venereal diseases, especially since there was no strict enforcement of hygienic measures. All this, of course, counterbalanced whatever healing properties the springs may have had.

With liberation has come better management and more efficient service. Some of the bathhouses have been turned into servicemen's clubs, while the largest one has been completely renovated. With the disappearance of the prostitutes the bathhouses have drawn classes of people who would not have gone before. Prices have been reduced and large crowds are attracted.

CONNOISSEURS of tea know that Foochow produces mostly green tea blended with flowers, that is tea drunk without milk or sugar since that would spoil the subtle flavor and delicate fragrance. Because of the quality of the flowers here, Anhwei province tea used to be shipped to Foochow to "eat flowers"—to use the trade term—before being put on the market.

North China, with Tientsin as the distribution center, has always been the principal market for Fukien tea. Next to timber, tea has been the second largest item of export and contributed no small portion to Foochow's prosperity in the past. British firms have been regular buyers in the local market. They blend it with Ceylon tea for consumption in England.

Following the war, during which the tea industry declined, the Kuomintang did very little to help revive it. What loans were made were not given to the tea planters but to merchants and speculators who used the money to tighten their grip on the growers.

In the old days the tea farmers had to borrow at high interest rates from the merchants, who would advance money only on condition that the crops would be sold to them at a stipulated price. Thus, by the time the loans were paid back the farmers had very little left.

Only after liberation did the government begin to look after the interests of the farmers by giving them low interest rate loans and buying up the crops at a price ensuring them a reasonable profit. The result has been an expansion of the growing area to near the pre-war level.

At the same time, to overcome the US-directed embargo and transportation difficulties, processing firms have been encouraged to amalgamate and adopt scientific methods of management and manufacture. Great emphasis has been placed on the standardization of products and improvement in quality.

The Public Trading Corporation bought up part of the orange crop last winter when the market was dull and fruit dealers did not want to take the risk of shipping to distant markets. The PTC paid ¥90,000 per 100 *catties* to the growers, selected the large oranges for shipment and sold the remainder on the local market, thus giving the growers a fair return and also making cheap fruit available to local consumers.

Impressive Results of

SINCE liberation the emphasis on health and sanitation in China has gone a long way to overcome the low standards handed down by centuries of feudal rule, and the Kuomintang's policy of doing nothing. The year 1952 has seen the movement for a cleaner and healthier nation mount in intensity with the nation-wide "clean-up campaign" which reached its climax during the summer months.

Figures on the clean-up drive in East China show the extent of the movement, plus an idea of conditions inherited from the KMT. By midsummer 8,659,930 tons of garbage had been cleaned out. In Shanghai alone more than 200,000 tons were accounted for. Some of the refuse cleaned out in Nanking and Yangchow had been left over from the days of the Taiping Revolution in the middle of the 19th century. Throughout the East China area 598,261 ditches, covering a total of 10,713,607 meters, were dredged. One canal in the city of Foochow had not been dredged for nearly 200 years. More than 427,000 toilets were repaired and built during the campaign.

In the matter of carriers of disease, millions of rats were caught and tons of mosquitoes and flies were destroyed in East China during the clean-up drive.

Throughout the country the health campaign has resulted in improved sanitary and health conditions for the people. Not only this, but the campaign has brought to the attention of millions the need to continue the drive to maintain the new standards. In Tsingtao, from 95 to 98 percent of the homes in the city's northern district received "clean house" certificates. People all over have drawn up neighborhood pledges to keep their homes clean.

The tremendous publicity drive during the campaign has made the people health conscious to an extent never before seen in China. In East China, hundreds of thousands of pamphlets on health were distributed. Thousands of persons from all walks of life volunteered to serve in

China's Clean-up Drive

publicity work. Meetings, health exhibitions, movies, lantern slides, broadcasts and skits were all used to publicize the movement.

In the countryside, traveling publicity units brought the campaign to the doorstep of the peasants and townspeople. Emulation drives were launched between villages and between groups in villages.

In the cities, the health campaign was tied in with municipal construction projects. For example, the Shanghai Public Utilities Bureau installed 160 new water supply stations in addition to the 1,119 already in existence. This has solved the long-standing difficulty in workers' districts which were short of water, and has affected more than 60 percent of the city's workers and their families. In the western district this problem had not been broached for decades.

Shanghai's city-wide clean-up drive has reached into all corners of the city. Girls of this small, private woolen mill on city's outskirts stage impromptu dance in rear courtyard, which formerly was a stagnant pond.

EXPANSION OF

CHINA'S COMMUNICATIONS

—KAO FAN

SINCE the establishment of the Central People's Government three years ago, great effort has been put into rehabilitation and expansion of the almost totally disrupted system of communications which it inherited. The railway network has been put back into commission and new lines are being constructed; waterways and highways have similarly been extended and all types of communications are constantly being improved to meet the needs of the people.

BY July 1951, for the first time in 14 years, the whole existing 22,600 kilometers of railways on the mainland and Hainan Island were open to traffic. Since then, the construction of two new lines has progressed rapidly. These are the Tiensuei-Lanchow line in the Northwest and the Chungking-Chengtu line in the Southwest.

Both lines run through mountainous and difficult territory. Not the least of the problems in building the Tiensuei-Lanchow line was a 1,980-meter tunnel. By exercising their ingenuity, the workers overcame many difficulties which at first seemed insurmountable and by March of this year 130 of the total 370 kilometers had been completed; work progressed at a fast pace and by October 1 track laying was completed, more than a year ahead of the original schedule.

Construction of the 530-kilometer Chungking-Chengtu line has also progressed rapidly; 380 kilometers of line were open to traffic by the end of last year, and the whole line was opened this July 1.

Already in June track-laying started on the Chengtu-Tiensuei line which will link the rich Szechuen province with the Northwest, when it is completed in 1958.

Another line, the 420-kilometer Laiping-Chennankwei railway in Kwangsi province, is also nearing completion. For the future, two trunk lines, with a total length of 5,000 kilometers, are under survey. They will connect Northwest and Southwest China with the rest of the country and greatly expedite the economic development of those areas.

The construction of the 542-kilometer Chingchow-Kupeikou Railway in the Northeast has been going on steadily since March 1. This line starts from Chingchow, Liaosi province and goes to Kupeikou, a well-known Great Wall pass from Jehol to Hopei province.

Since liberation, the railway workers have centered their activities on "safety, speed and higher haulage." In 1951, a locomotive in the Northeast ran more than 275,000 kilometers without a single breakdown or general overhaul; another registered a record run of more than 1,100 kilometers in a day. Maximum haulage is encouraged as a means of increasing production and practicing economy. For the first half of 1951, total haulage was 3.4 percent higher than the 1950 total. Average speed of freight trains was 5.7 percent higher than during 1950, while the speed of passenger trains, especially through expresses, increased to a greater extent.

The achievements of the railway workers have resulted in a great reduction of costs. In July-August 1951 average freight costs were reduced more than 15 percent and pas-

Laying ties at high speed.

senger fares by nearly 17 percent.

To greet May Day this year, railway workers surpassed their 1951 records. The crew of locomotive No. 1008, in the Northeast, set a safe-running record of more than 350,000 kilometers, a Nanking locomotive ran 1,244 kilometers in one day, a new haulage record of nearly 7,208 tons was set, and workers of the car section in Shanghai attained a national 2,000,000-kilometer safe running record.

* * *

SINCE 1949, the government has done its utmost to repair the war damage to harbors and shipping and to restore both coastal and inland shipping routes. The more than 7,400 kilometers of coastal routes have for the most part been reopened to traffic, while inland routes have been greatly extended.

In 1948, 18,000 kilometers of inland waterways were navigable for steamships and about 23,500 kilometers of smaller waterways were open to motor junks. Main routes were the 2,539-kilometer Ipin-Shanghai section of the Yangtze River, the 2,381-kilometer Moho-Ussuri section of the Heilungkiang River, the 1,171-kilometer Hanchung-Hankow section of the Han River, and the 992-kilometer Nanning-Canton section of the Hsikiang River, a tributary of the Pearl River.

Since liberation, improvement of water transport has progressed rapidly. In East China there is now a network of 25,700 kilometers of navigable waterways, the importance of which is shown by the fact that 80 percent of the goods transported in the area are carried by river boats. During 1950-51, more than 800,000 tons of food and equipment were shipped by junk to the Huai River Project.

The China Inland Steam Navigation Corporation now operates 38 routes on regular schedules and 40 routes on irregular schedules, covering about 80 percent of East China's waterways. Many areas of Shantung, Anhwei and South Chekiang which had no steamboat service before liberation are now served by steamers and motor junks.

In 1951, about 56 percent of the nation's total steam tonnage was owned by the state, the balance by private enterprise. Last year, the total tonnage of motor junks and wooden vessels was 23 times the steam tonnage total. During the past two years, shipping has developed steadily, as shown by last year's figure of 142 percent fulfillment of its target by the maritime transport industry. Nearly twice as much freight was carried last year as in 1950, while freight charges, having been cut several times, are now less than half of pre-liberation rates.

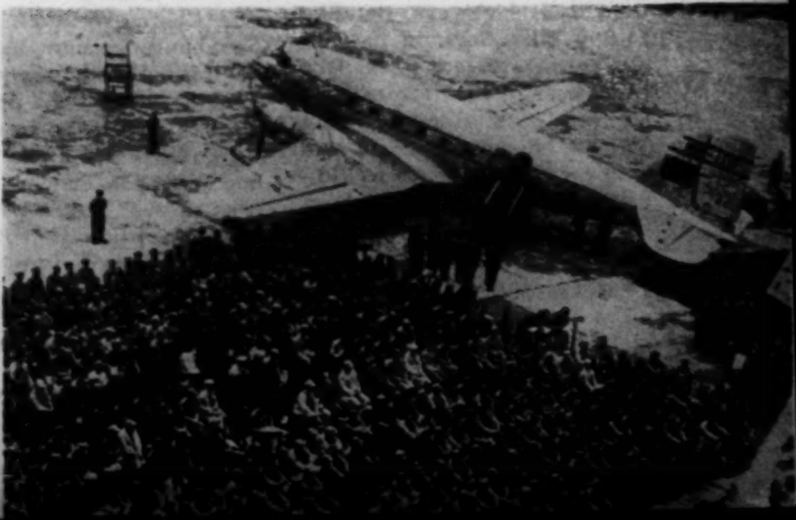
Water-borne freight charges are only about one-tenth those of road transport, and in East China the total length of inland waterways is more than eight times that of railways and 1.4 times the length of the highways. In North China, there are six main rivers and 12 tributaries navigable by steamboats, and more than 3,400 kilometers of smaller waterways navigable by motor junks; this is an increase over pre-war routes and is a result chiefly of extensive dredging operations.

With completion of work this spring to lead water from the Yellow River into the Wei River, navigation of the 960-kilometer Wei River has been made possible for boats of 200 tons even in the dry season. Such boats now ply from Hsinhsiang, capital of Pingyuan province, directly to Tientsin, thus providing a short haul for goods from North and Central-South China.

Yellow River water is also being turned into the Hsiaoching River in Shantung; this, together with dredging, will permit motor launches to haul barges up to 200 tons along the river.

During the present year, the main work for improving inland navigation is the dredg-

Meeting of Civil Aviation Bureau workers in Shanghai to christen new passenger plane being put into service.



ing of the Grand Canal, the Chi and Chia-ling rivers in Szechuen province, and several other smaller rivers.

* * *

HIGHWAY work has also been carried forward rapidly, as shown by the 100,000 kilometers of modern highways open to traffic throughout the country at the end of last year, five times the length of highway open before liberation. By September of last year, East China had more than 18,000 kilometers of highways, which greatly contributed to the interflow of goods between city and countryside. In South Anhwei, 12 highways were repaired between November 1950 and August 1951, most of which were all-weather roads.

Repairs and construction on highways has gone ahead at full speed all over the country. By the end of last year, there were 165 highways, totaling 21,300 kilometers, in the five northern provinces; in the Northwest, the Sian-Tihua highway totals more than 1,700 kilometers; and all major cities in southern Sinkiang are linked with Ansi, Kansu by a great oval route.

In the Southwest, the government spent nearly twice as much last year on highways as in 1950, and completion of the Szechuen - Sikang - Chinghai highway enables much-needed tea and cloth to be brought to the Tibetan area of Sikang. Kweichow's needed salt imports increased, partly as a result of the completion of 600 kilometers of highways and secondary roads in the province.

In other parts of the country, five main highways are under construction, which will have an enormous effect upon the interflow of goods. These are the Sian-Chengtu highway, the Chengtu-Kunming highway, which will be extended to the Burmese border, the Wuchang - Hanyang - Kweiyang-Yunnan highway, the Nanchang - Foochow - Amoy highway, and the Peking-Tientsin-Tangku highway.

Improved maintenance work has reduced the cost of highway transportation. Before liberation, for example, it used to take two days to travel over the Chefoo-Weihsien highway in Shantung; now, as a result of the better maintenance and repairs done by the people, the trip can be made in one day. In South Anhwei the 268-kilometer Wuhu-Tunchi highway was in such bad condition before liberation that it took a diesel bus two days to cover the distance; now a charcoal bus can make it in a day. Maintenance is even better where the system of sectional responsibility has been established; in these sections, freight volume has been increased several times.

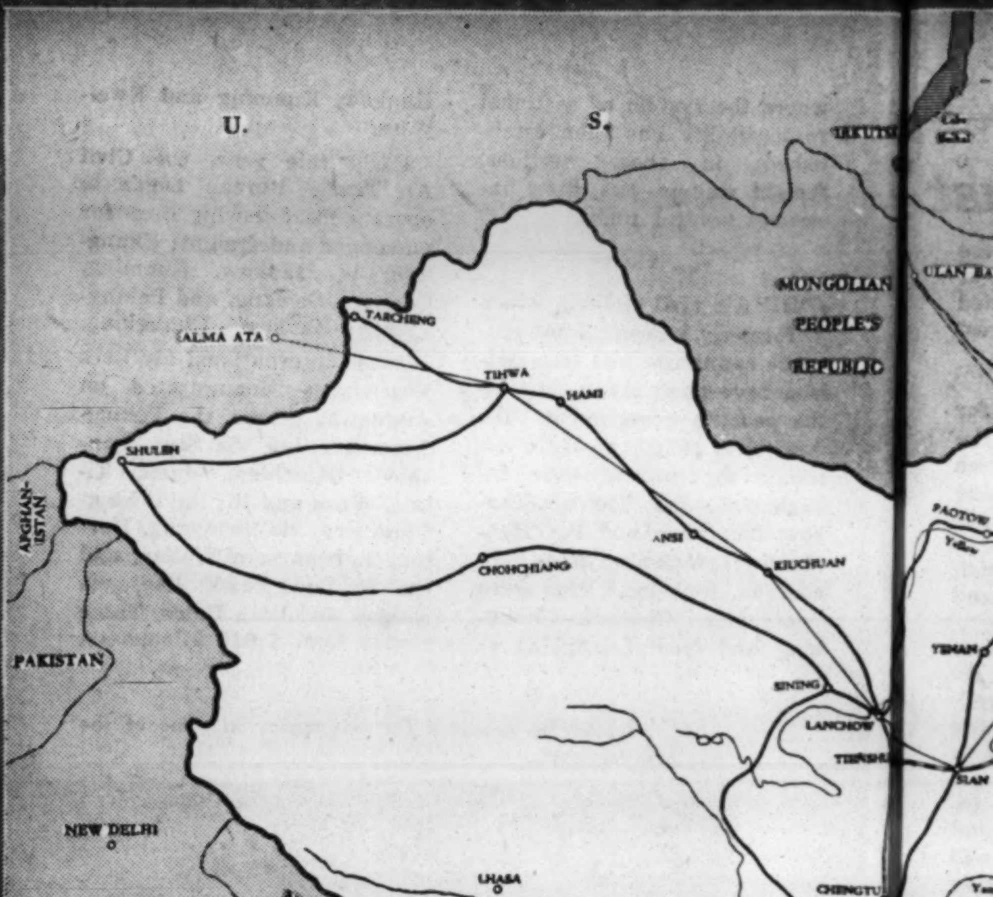
* * *

CHINA'S civil airlines, which formerly served the bureaucratic capitalists and imperialists, have been taken over by the people's government. On August 1, 1950, two main domestic air routes were inaugurated, the Tientsin-Hankow-Chungking and the Tientsin-Hankow-Canton lines. In addition, four local lines were established, Chengtu - Chungking, and from Chungking to Hankow, Kunming and Kweiyang.

Early this year, the Civil Air Traffic Bureau began to operate the following lines for passenger and freight: Chungking to Hankow, Kunming, Chengtu, Sichang, and Peking-Tientsin-Hankow - Chungking.

Three international air lines were also inaugurated on August 1, 1950: the Peking-Alma-Ata line, via Sian, Lanchow, Chiuchien, Hami, Tihua, Wusu and Ili; the Peking-Chita line, via Shenyang, Harbin, Tsitsihar and Hailar; and the Peking-Irkutsk line, via Kalgan and Ulan Bator. These routes total 7,643 kilometers.

Books are provided for passengers on some of the new bus lines.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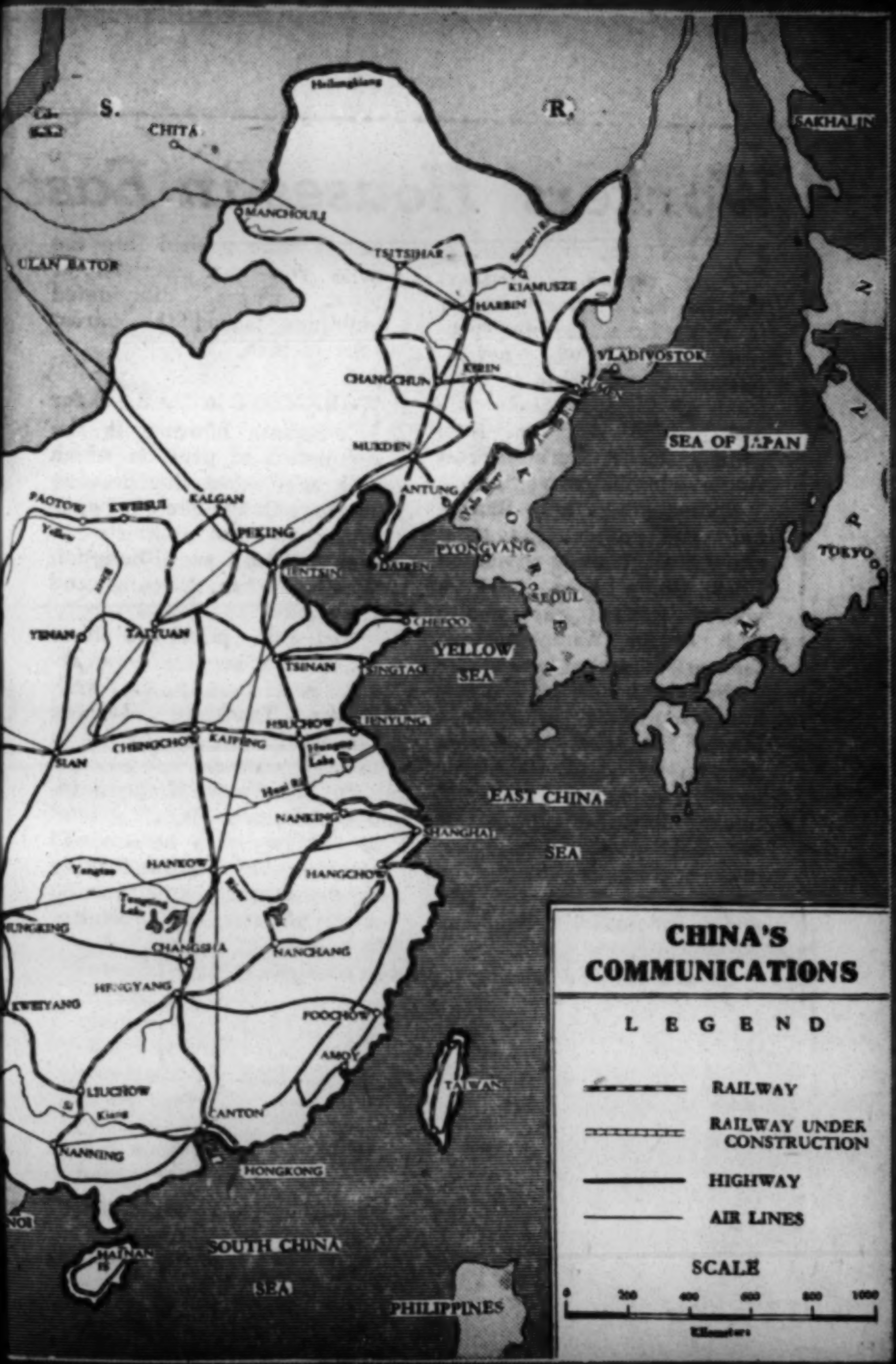

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CHINA'S COMMUNICATIONS

Workers' Houses in East

DECENT housing for working people and their families has become a reality in new China. Housing projects, which will accommodate 28,600 families or a total of 150,000 people, are well under way in East China, the nation's largest single administrative unit.

Before liberation, Shanghai and other industrial cities in the heavily populated East China area were a violent contrast of wealth and poverty. While most of the people were herded together in hovels and straw huts, a minority of officials, foreign taipans, and rich compradors and landlords lived in splendor. For years, under Japanese occupation and KMT control, new buildings served as offices and living quarters for the rich and influential. Working people were pushed into the most run-down sections of town, where dilapidated buildings lacked the barest conveniences.

FOREMOST in the drive for adequate housing is the completion of projects which will help solve the housing shortage in the densely populated workers' districts in such cities as Shanghai, Wusih, Tsinan, Nanking and Hangchow.

Shanghai plans to have 20,000 new houses for workers, and already the well-known Tsaoyang Housing Project has been opened to factory workers.

In the South Kiangsu industrial city of Wusih a total of 750 two-story houses will be set up for workers. Taking up an area of more than 33 acres of land, these residen-

A new workers' housing project in Tsingtao.

China . .

New dormitories recently completed for workers of Shanghai's No. 4 State Wire Plant.

ces will house 10,000 people, and will be located near the city's textile factories.

In Tsinan, capital of Shantung province, 1,000 workers' houses will be built in the suburbs. Each family will occupy a space equivalent to 38.4 square meters which will include a sitting room, bedroom, lavatory, built-in wardrobes and kitchen. A nursery, school, cooperative, clinic, bath house, playground and postoffice will be provided.

Nanking's housing project to provide living quarters for 1,400 families is already under way. Welfare and educational facilities will be part of the project. This city's plan also includes the purchase by the city government of vacant or unused buildings to be used for workers' dormitories. It is estimated these will accommodate more than 5,000 workers and their families.

Houses for workers are also going up in the larger cities in North Kiangsu. These include 280 houses in Yangchow, 500 in Nantung and 200 in Taichow. At the same time, in scenic Hangchow, long a pleasure resort for KMT officialdom and the wealthy, a project has been mapped out to give the city's workers proper housing. Plans call for the construction of nurseries and workers' clubs and rest homes.

The KMT heritage of inadequate housing is not something which can be overcome in a day. However, projects such as the ones in East China, which are being duplicated in other areas throughout the country, are a definite sign of the times—the days when workers were last to receive the benefits of society are gone.

Peking Revisited

Julian Schuman

THIS ancient capital, built by the people but for centuries not in their hands, has long been a symbol of all China—a city of beauty and a treasure house of the nation's cultural heritage. To the "old China hands," before liberation Peking was the perfect retreat—a manifestation of their wellworn phrase "in China time means nothing"—where they could patronize the antique shops, retire behind the walls of their well-appointed courtyards and ignore the poverty which was all around them.

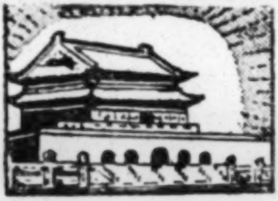
In August 1948 I visited Peking. Though the Kuomintang (KMT) was gasping its last breath all the ancient glories of the city were there: the Temple of Heaven, the Summer Palace, the White Dagoba, the beautiful parks and lakes; all in glittering contrast to the shabbiness and rottenness of the decaying regime. Even the renowned "tranquillity" of Peking and its people was heavy with the dead weight of uncertainty and foreboding. For it was 1948 and Chiang and his cohorts were on the brink of their greatest military defeats.

In less than two months they would lose all of the Northeast (Manchuria); by the end of the year the KMT armies north of the Yangtze River would be shakily entrenched on the south bank; and before the first month of the new year was out Chiang and everything he stood for would be gone forever from Peking. All this was in the making in those hot August days as the city waited and wondered.

Just a few weeks before, one of the many student demonstrations taking place all over the country against US rearming of Japan was forcefully put down. KMT troops had opened fire on university students, killing and wounding some and jailing others. This was a time when Peking students were asking Americans why the Truman government insisted on supporting Chiang and his bloody ways. It was also a time when students of many political shades, disgusted with the government, stole out of the city by night into the not far-off Western Hills and thence into the Liberated Areas; for by the summer of 1948 the forces of the People's Liberation Army were already close by and Chiang's troops were unable to control the majestic hills outside the city.

Peking that final summer was like so many cities in Kuomintang China. Poverty was everywhere; inflation raged and all over was the hallmark of Chiang's masters—the Americans. Soldiers and marines, high US military and civil "advisers" filled the city. The markets were glutted with US army goods and supplies.

There was no happiness in the city. A handful of the rich and the upper crust of KMT officialdom indulging in far-flung ostentation contrasted with the street beggars and the general gloom, despair and uncertainty of the 1,000,000 residents. The numerous US "advisers," embassy and military people, along with a few others lived graciously and well—their US dollars bringing them a more than fair return on the blackmarket as the KMT currency sank into worthlessness.



I remember going to the house of a professor, who had been educated in the US. He was a teacher of Western literature and his politics were those of a liberal. We talked of many things but I best recall his bewilderment over US policy of propping up Chiang and his remarks that it was becoming more and more impossible for any Chinese to suppose that the KMT would reform. He was a mild man but he talked with considerable feeling about the educational world, and told of the thousands of teen-age middle school students who had walked back to Peking from the Northeast. The KMT had promised them schooling, but when they arrived they found nothing. Now they were camped on the site of an ancient temple, conducting their own classes and waiting to be heard.

The teachers' plight was a sorry one. Over a glass of green tea this slight and bespectacled professor told me his salary was not enough even to feed himself and his family.

It was a hot and dry August day and some of the dust from the nearby hills blew through the city. The sun disappeared behind dark clouds rolling over Peking. A streak of lightning from the west brought a pause in our talk. One hand holding his glass, the professor looked in the direction from where the lightning had come—the Western Hills—and said, "One does not have to believe in symbols, but you know it is more than possible that is where our future is."

This was Peking in the summer of 1948.

EVEN the most hard-bitten "old China hand," were he in Peking in October 1952 could not but admit that time here moves forward now—and at a breath-taking pace. From the nearly four years of liberation of this city has sprung a new Peking and a new people whose face and spirit cause the returnee to look upon that summer of 1948 as having been spent in a realm so distant that remembrance of it is like thumbing through the pages of a musty history book.

My second visit to Peking came at the time of the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific regions. The same centuries-old glories I had seen four years ago were more resplendent than ever, since renovations and badly needed repairs had been made after years of neglect. This time there were many foreigners to be seen. However, they were very different from the "ivory tower" collection, the US military and economic "aides" and sundry diplomatic personnel who were all over the place before liberation. The more than 400 delegates, observers and guests from nearly 40 countries reflected the overwhelming desire for peace on the part of 1,600,000,000 people, more than one-half the world's population.

These foreign guests were heartily and hospitably welcomed and received by the people of new Peking. One had but to visit the jam-packed square in front of Tien An Men on the night of October 1. In the last hours of the day-long celebration of National Day thousands of people from all walks of life were singing and dancing far into the early hours of the morning. Scores of delegates made their way there, in small groups and some without their interpreters. None of these visitors from other Asian countries, the US and Latin America spoke Chinese but no language was needed. They were greeted, hand-clasped, hugged and invited to join in the singing and dancing by a

populace that was not only expressing the warmest type of friendliness but also giving expression to their joy and pride in their new nation. Nationality and language were no barrier—all were united in the common cause for peace and in celebration of new China's third birthday.

The changes in Peking are clear and striking in all aspects. A walk along Wan Fu Ching, one of the main shopping streets, and the sight of crowds of people pouring in and out of the many stores makes it difficult to remember the general business depression here when I was in Peking last. The black marketeers and beggars are gone as well as many of the shops that catered to the extravagant fancies of the rich. But the large number of shoppers in the many department stores, which did not even exist four years ago, reflects the growing purchasing power of the city people and peasants. An air of prosperity emanates from the many freshly-painted shops. One also notices the receipts for every purchase no matter how small, a phenomenon not too astounding unless it is recalled that in the old days there was no such thing as a receipt, and only after long haggling could a purchase be made.

Great construction projects have taken place in Peking and others are in the process of developing. New buildings add fresh touches to the city's traditional appearance while old historical buildings are being restored and renovated. Scaffolding, stacks of bricks, and loads of wood and cement have become commonplace in Peking. The northwestern suburb of the city, at the foot of the Western Hills, has been set aside as a cultural and educational zone and new universities and technical schools have sprung up.

Peking has become a wonderfully clean city. The thousands of *hutungs* (lanes) which make up the residential areas are spick-and-span. Clean water fills the city's four big lakes after decades of neglect. During the Peace Conference, for example, delegates noted the absence of flies, and the appearance of a stray one in the sumptuous dining hall of the Peace Hotel brought forth a number of waiters armed with fly swatters. A walk through the beautiful Central Park makes one think twice before dropping a cigarette butt, so clean are the paved paths.

Peking people have always loved the theater and there are scores in the city, with various kinds of plays and operas and showing to full houses. During October a festival was being held for the city's cultural workers. They were able to see more than 60 different kinds of theater representing every area in China.

Not a few of the more than 400 participants in the Peace Conference were astounded by the vast quantities of food on sale in the markets and the abundance of daily necessities. The healthy-looking children are well dressed and the many groups of them going by singing were the voices of youth with a future. In their enthusiastic greetings, they taught the visiting delegates their first Chinese phrase, "Ho ping wan sui!" ("Long live peace!").

It is not easy to believe that such a city has come out of the old, all in the space of a few short years. Looking at this capital of new China today the eye says no, but the mind can still recall the old and in so doing it brings into sharp focus what liberation has meant. Here is a city of life, happiness and hope—with a burning desire to live in peaceful construction.

The New Housewife

Gladys Taylor Yang

THE changes here in Nanking since liberation have been many. Some are swift and spectacular, like the new cleanliness resulting from the nation-wide health movement. Others take place gradually, yet they are of great significance since they indicate the line of future development. The change in the life of China's urban housewives is of this nature.

The decade before liberation saw the middle-class wife's living standard lowered yearly. At home she could afford little help, and kindergartens and creches were virtually non-existent. Jobs were scarce, and women were discriminated against in most professions. Housing was inadequate and high rents went hand in hand with crowded living conditions.

Daily life for the housewife was a losing battle with Chiang Kai-shek's raging inflation. Her husband's pay day was the time to rush to the blackmarket and exchange his meager earnings for US or silver dollars in a vain effort to hedge against the constant depreciation of the Kuomintang currency. She was a household drudge concerned only with her struggle for existence.

LAND reform and the new marriage law have revolutionized the status of tens of millions of peasant women who now possess land in their own name. Women in industry now enjoy equal rights and opportunities with men, and working mothers are able to send their children to nurseries. But what of the former middle-class housewife, with no specific qualifications?

The answer is that she too has opportunities for a much fuller life than before. In the first place she now has economic stability. Inflation has long been checked and real wages have risen; planned household management is possible.

The increasing number of nurseries and training classes have

MRS. GLADYS TAYLOR YANG was born in Peking of British missionary parents and is now teaching in Nanking. In this article she describes her impressions of the new role of housewives in today's China.

Liberation has opened many new fields to China's women. Above: street car "motorwoman" in Peking.

made it possible for many housewives to take on full or part-time jobs. Some, after short-term training, have helped meet the great demand for more primary school or literacy class teachers.

Each housewife is now drawn into community activities. Every street or small district has its Residents' Committee which organizes community study in connection with nation-wide or city-wide movements, and guides other group activities. In this way, for the first time in their lives, many women have found scope for their administrative ability. In our neighborhood, for instance, some housewives have pooled sewing machines to make clothes by taking turns three hours in the afternoon three or four times a week.

The housewife has a fuller cultural life than ever before. Many districts also run singing and dancing classes, or show feature and documentary films. Those who had no previous schooling are now able to attend literacy classes. A group of housewives in our district joined such a class during the summer to study the new rapid system for learning 2,000 Chinese characters, and their enthusiasm was infectious. Since the weather was warm and windows were open, they could be heard chanting the phonetic symbols of the new method to the accompaniment of laughter and chatter till 10 o'clock at night.

A FEW examples from among my acquaintances may illustrate the change in the average housewife better than the generalizations given above.

In 1948 my neighbor Mrs. Lien was the wife of a government worker and had two children. When I first knew her she was tied to the house, only interested in making both ends meet. All her talk was of prices and gossip about the neighbors. On any question of importance she simply parrotted her husband.

After liberation Mr. Lien went to Peking for a year, and his wife began to study and read. Her son, a Young Pioneer, encouraged her. She began to want to do her bit for national reconstruction and looked around for productive work. At first she found no opening because just-liberated Nanking had the KMT-inherited unemployment problem to cope with. So she bought a machine to make stockings. When she found that the market was glutted with this product she studied typing and accounting at the YMCA, and joined a political study group.

When she began addressing her letters to her husband in Peking "Comrade Lien," and he wrote back "Comrade Chen" (Mrs. Lien's maiden name), the entire neighborhood was greatly amused. But this was an illustration of the real change in their relations. Formerly, Mrs. Lien had taken her husband as an authority on all weighty matters. It was always "He said this" and "He thinks that."

Mr. Lien found his wife quite changed when he returned from Peking. In fact, it was an eye-opener to him to hear this little woman challenge his views when he began holding forth in his old authoritative way. Now Mrs. Lien works in a bank and the children are doing well in kindergarten and in school. The chief virtue of this change is not that the family's income has increased greatly, but that the marriage has become a real partnership,

Women workers taking it easy at the Dairen Workers' Rest Home.

and Mrs. Lien has gained in self-respect and happiness.

Then there is ex-Mrs. Chao, a big, tall countrywoman from the north, in her early twenties. An arranged marriage six years ago made her the number two wife of a retired KMT general. Childless and with too little to do, she became a house-proud, mahjong-playing housewife.

Joining a study group some time after liberation, she began to see herself as something more than just a housewife. She was a citizen of new China and wanted to work. She found a job in a match factory. "The pay is negligible," she told me, "but it's training and it's better than sitting at home." She attended a literacy class and began going to the new movies. There was a noticeable increase in her self-confidence and mental alertness.

The next step was to get a divorce from the old man she had been forced to marry. On her last visit she told me she was going to marry a former People's Liberation Army soldier of her own age, and work in Nanking's new cotton mill. Although she may not be living as comfortably as when she was a KMT general's wife, no one knowing her can doubt that her life is richer than before, and she is proud to be a productive member of society and not a parasite.

Spinner Chou Ah-fung (center) of Shanghai's State No. 1 Cotton Mill being congratulated by fellow workers on winning a recent inter-mill emulation contest.

AS an example of the older generation there is my own mother-in-law, a bound-footed, conventional matriarch of the old China whose only previous concern was The Family. I have not seen her for some years, but her letters show the change in her outlook, from doubt and apprehension to approval and support of the people's government.

My mother-in-law used to despise people who worked with their hands. Imagine our surprise when during the Tientsin Exhibition in 1950 she helped entertain visiting peasants from the countryside. She began to write of her care of her grandchildren as one form of service to the people, since it allowed her daughter to work whole-heartedly. She who never read anything in the past now reads the newspaper carefully every day, and she actually congratulated my husband when he had a chance to go study in Peking.

She often writes to us urging us to work well. Last month we received an eight-page letter. "The more I see the more I'm impressed with our new society," wrote this woman who had grown up surrounded by truly feudal ideology. She cited examples of corruption punished, new public works in Tientsin, and described how well her daughter is doing in the college where she teaches, whereas formerly she was discriminated against as a woman.

"Mind you take my letter seriously for once," she concluded, "because it's taken two days for me to write all this and I want you to know what my views are. And you needn't reply immediately because I know how busy you both are." This from a matriarch who used to look at the world in terms of "Family Comes First" is a real revelation.

There have been many moving stories of elderly woman like my mother-in-law who have been thus affected by the liberation of China, and who now give all their devotion to it—septuagenarians have raised donations for the volunteers in Korea, collected peace signatures and set records catching flies and mosquitoes in the health campaign.

I have made it a point to describe cases of average city wives rather than outstanding examples, though there have been many of the latter. Mrs. Average Housewife is no longer content merely to stay in the kitchen. She wants to do useful work, think for herself, raise her cultural level and lead a more complete life. And as China's industrialization moves apace this trend will be accelerated. She now sees participation in community life as a duty, and one from which she derives deep satisfaction. Certainly China's housewives have changed!

CHINA NOTES

Three-Year Progress Report

DURING 1952, China continued its advance toward industrialization at an even faster pace than during the past two years, and in agriculture and many important industries production broke through the highest pre-war ceilings. A brief summary of achievements follows:

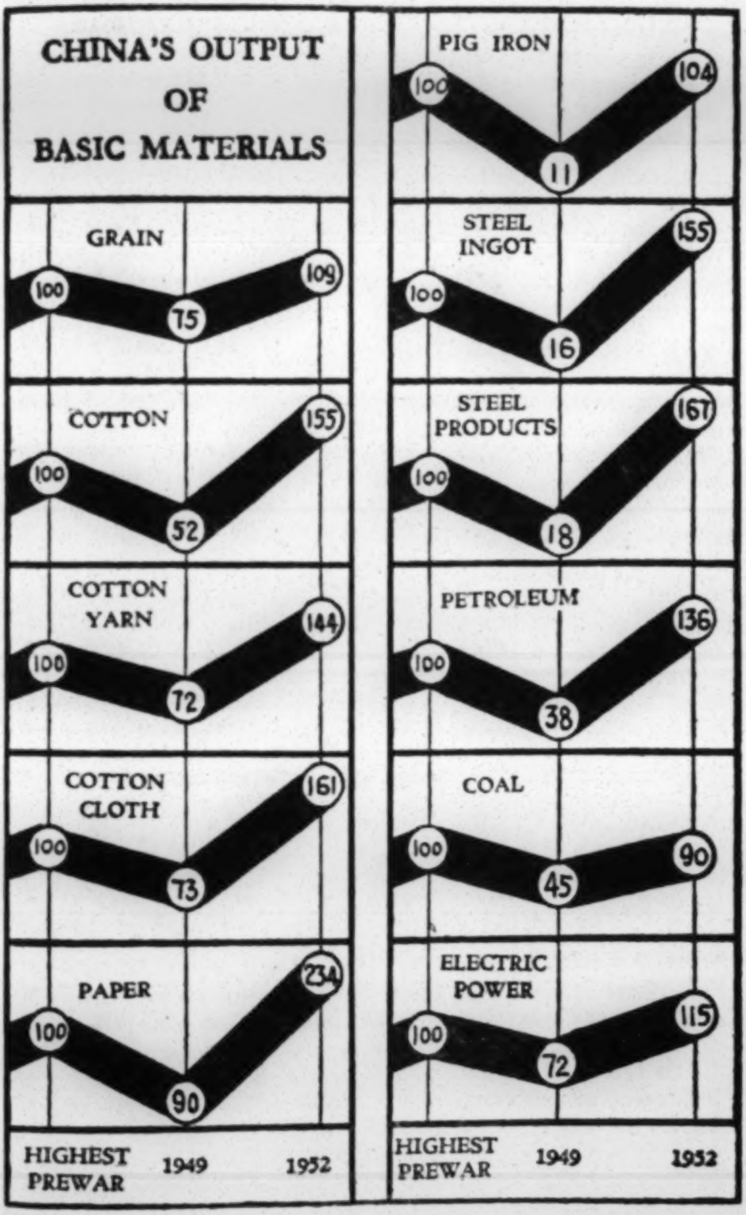
LAND REFORM, AGRICULTURE, CONSERVANCY: Land reform has been basically completed, affecting more than 428,000,000 peasants; about 700,000,000 *mou* (116,000,000 acres) of land confiscated from landlords has been distributed to 300,000,000 peasants. Excepting Tibet and minority areas, land reform in remaining areas with a population of 30,000,000 will be completed by next spring.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION has rapidly recovered; 1952 total is expected to top 1949's by 50 percent. Grain and cotton output will exceed pre-war levels (see chart), while the tobacco crop will be more than twice the best pre-war year's. Farmers have organized themselves into more than 6,000,000 mutual aid teams and 3,000 producer cooperatives, and more than 10 collective farms have been established.

WATER CONSERVANCY: Total earthwork involved in three years of projects (1,700,000,000 cubic meters) equals 10 Panama Canals or 23 Suez Canals. Nearly 9,000,000 acres have been added to China's irrigated lands since 1950 and 31,000,000 acres have been protected against floods. Investment in this work by the government in 1950 was 18 times, last year 42 times, and this year 52 times the biggest KMT water conservancy budget.

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT: This year, total output of the country's 35 principal industries is 126 percent of the highest pre-war record; total industrial output (excluding handicrafts) is 26.6 percent above the 1949 level. Taking highest pre-war levels as 100, this year's production of cement is 148, timber 136, flour 106, sugar 100, cigarettes 145 and matches 111. (For other products, see chart.)

COMMUNICATIONS have been restored and extended. In



CHINA'S OUTPUT OF BASIC MATERIALS

three years more than 14,000 kilometers of railway lines have been restored, and 1,267 km of new lines built; 23,785 km of line are in operation. Nearly 32,500 km of highways have been repaired and 1,100 km of new routes built; 107,438 km are open to traffic. Postal routes total 1,395,899 km, 25 percent more than pre-war.

TRADE AND COOPERATIVES: In 1951, the volume of domestic trade was 30 percent above 1950, and this year's volume is expected to exceed last year's by 70 percent. More than 36,000 cooperatives have a membership of 106,240,000, nearly eight times the 1949 total. As of June, total co-op capital was six times the 1949 total.

PRICES AND LIVING STANDARDS: While commodity prices increased 6,000,000 times between August 1937 to August 1948 under Kuomintang rule, prices have now been stabilized. Taking March, 1950 prices as 100, this June the index was 95.2. Meanwhile, living standards have gone up, with average purchasing power this year 25 percent above 1951. Workers' incomes in the Northeast are 25.6 percent above 1951, while Northeast peasants' purchasing power has gone up 37 percent.

EDUCATION: There are 49,000,000 primary school students, more than 3,000,000 high school students and nearly 220,000 college students in the nation's schools. High school and college enrolments are about 65 percent greater than in 1946, and the proportion of children of worker and peasant families attending school has greatly increased, to more than 80 percent of primary school enrolment. More than 3,000,000 workers attend spare-time schools and 35,000,000 peasants attend winter schools, with another 14,000,000 in spare-time schools.

BOOKS AND FILMS: For the first half of 1952, movie attendance was more than 213,000,000, while the total for the whole of 1950 was 146,000,000. The country has 766 newspapers, with a circulation of 8,000,000. In 1950, 271,600,000 books were printed, last year 669,600,000, and this year the total will be 80,000,000 copies.

HEALTH: New China has a brilliant health record, with no case of cholera reported since 1949; smallpox has been wiped out, with 369,000,000 vaccinations up to last June. By the end of 1951, there were 113 times as many creches as before 1949, and 91.2 percent of the counties had health centers; by the end of 1952, all the nation's counties will have a health center.

China's Treasure Island

★ ★ *Hainan's people, after 25 years of struggle, are now free to develop their rubber, salt, fish and mineral wealth . . .*

THE islands of Hainan and Taiwan are the eyes of new China; one is open, shining and bright, while the other is still closed.

Hainan is located approximately equidistant from Hongkong and Saigon. Just below the Tropic of Cancer, this subtropical island is of great strategic value. Part of Hainan is a low-lying plain; part contains mountains, with some peaks 5,500 feet high.

The liberation of Hainan was an epic milestone in the history of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. In March 1950, after three months' intensive training in amphibious tactics, an advance contingent of the PLA landed on the island, and in close coordination with the well-organized guerilla forces under the command of General Fung Pei-chi, fanned out and penetrated into the interior.

On the night of April 16, the main PLA force embarked from the Luichow Peninsula, broke through the Kuomintang naval blockade and successfully stormed the island's shore defenses. By April 30, the whole island was liberated.

THE great hero of Hainan is General Fung Pei-chi, who led the struggle on the island for 23 years, and who now is the chief executive of the Hainan administration.

A returned student from Shanghai, General Fung became the leader of the Hainan Communist Party in 1929, and fought against the feudal landlords during two agrarian revolutions, one in 1927-28 and the other in 1929-31. Although the two revolutions were unsuccessful, the struggle continued, and under General Fung the famous Hainan Column, an army of more than 10,000, was organized.

All over the island peasant organizations were set up and land reform carried out. However, during the 1931-1938 period serious setbacks were suffered. In 1942, the hide-and-seek guerilla warfare of General Fung's army dealt the Japanese invaders severe blows. With the end of the war against Japan, the KMT armies returned to the island. Three months after VJ Day, Chiang's forces unleashed a frenzied attack against the Hainan Red Army forces from every direction, built a "no-man's land" around them, and tried to starve them to death. However, all these efforts failed and the Hainan Column continued to grow, forcing the KMT troops back to the coast.

THE total area of Hainan is about 58,000 square miles, of which seven percent is farmland, while the total amount of arable land is about 25 percent; so there are good possibilities for developing agriculture.

Most of the island's 3,000,000 population are peasants but the rice crop has not been sufficient to feed them all, being approximately 600,000 *piculs* short. Sugar cane, coconut trees, coffee and rubber grow abundantly in the island's sub-tropical temperature.

Land reform will be entirely completed on the island by the end of this year. It was carried out in three stages beginning in February 1951.

Much attention is being paid to the rehabilitation of the rubber plantations. The people's government has taken over 61 plantations formerly owned by KMT officials and landlords, with 34,000 rubber trees and 4,000,000 saplings.

For the first time large-scale anti-disease measures are being taken to protect cattle. During a three-months' drive 70,000 head were inoculated. This resulted in cutting the death rate in half, saved more than Y30,000,000,000, and gave the peasants the animal power to till 340,000 *mou* of farmland.

The National Pei-shek River Farm is well-known for its large waterfall which is able to generate 200 horsepower of electricity with which to run an oil refinery and a sugar mill. This farm, which has the advantage of good communication facilities, occupies 1,000 *mou* of land, and 10,000 *mou* of wasteland is to be reclaimed. Plans call for the growing of sugar cane, flax, and a species of rattan which is used for insecticide.

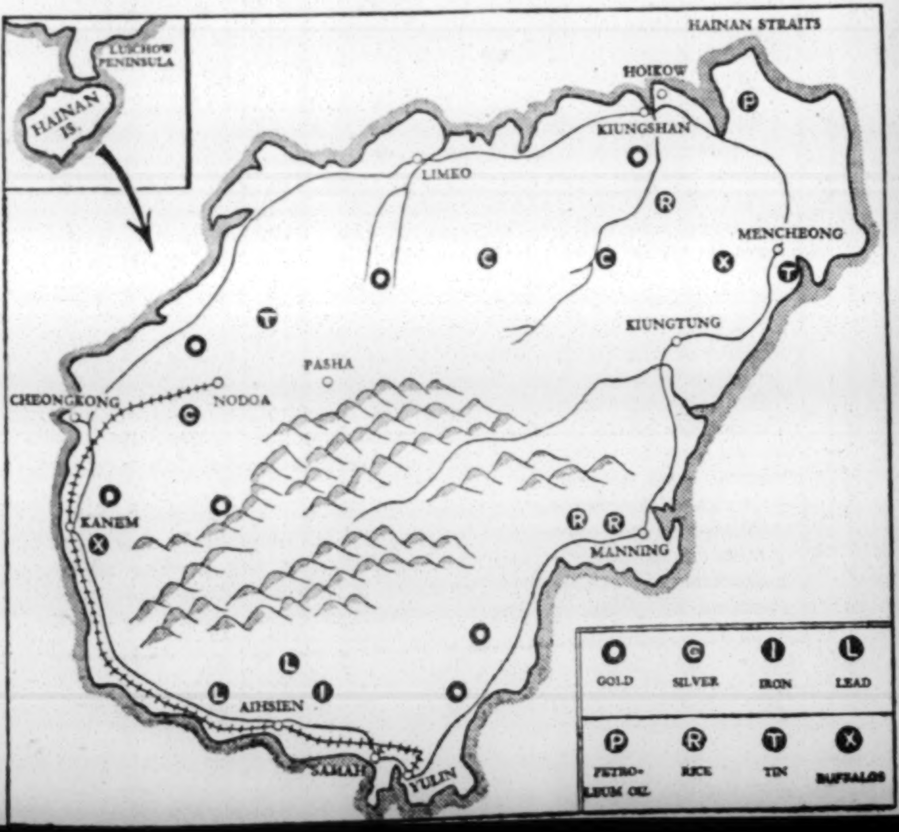
Coastal fishing is an important island industry, annual output being around 200,000 *piculs*, of which 50,000 is for export. Fishing people number about 45,000 and possess 4,000 fishing junks of varying kinds. Fishermen, with government aid, have organized 10 cooperatives and are able to get loans from the government-owned People's Bank. In the old days, the only source of a loan was the landlord who exacted his pound of flesh, usually charging 20-60 percent monthly interest.

Government aid is restoring the island's shattered salt industry. Tien-loo is well known for its gulfs and bays and density of sea water, containing three percent salt and having a hot sun capable of doing the work of crystallization.

Prior to the anti-Japanese war, annual output of salt was 400,000 *piculs*. Because the KMT tore up the installations for firewood, broke down the dikes and generally neglected the industry, 90 percent of the salt producing enterprises had to be suspended. By loans and price stabilization, the people's government has helped to increase annual output to about 800,000 *piculs*, with 500,000 for export.

Hainan is rich in mineral resources. The island has vast iron ore deposits assaying from 52 to 68 percent. This was one of the principal treasures the Japanese eyed in addition to the island's supplies of tin and tungsten.

Since liberation much work has been done in improving the island's communication system; bridges have been constructed and highways repaired and extended. Before liberation the island's railroad covered 610 kilometers; today it has been extended to 829


HAINAN STRAITS
LUICHOW PENINSULA
HAINAN IS.
HOIKOW
KIUNGSHAN
LIMEO
MENCHEONG
KIUNGTUNG
PASHA
CHEONGKONG
NODOA
KANEM
MANNING
AIHSIEN
SAMAH
YULIN
O GOLD
G SILVER
I IRON
L LEAD
P PETROLEUM OIL
R RICE
T TIN
X BUFFALOS

kilometers.

A LARGE section of Hainan's population is made up of national minorities. Along the base of the Five Finger Mountains in the center of the island live about 300,000 members of the Li nationality and more than 100,000 Miao people. Like their fellow-minorities on the mainland, before liberation they were treated as second-class citizens.

Barely able to eke out an existence, they wore ragged clothes and lived in low thatched huts which they could only enter by stooping down and crawling in. Completely illiterate and deliberately kept in a state of ignorance by their

Tele-communications

Land reform on Hainan has meant speeding up the development of this one-time backward island. Yi Chen-ting, one of the post and communications workers sent over from the mainland, describes how this liberated island is building its first island-wide telephone system.

THE physical make-up of Hainan has been an obstacle to the development of communications. Land reform has made it essential to have a telephone system, for administrative purposes as well as for work on the spot. In our work around Five Finger Mountain the steep cliffs and dense forest foliage shut out daylight from many of the mountain paths. Trees are so large that after they are cut down the diameter of their trunks is higher than a man. Under a tropical sun grass often grows 20 feet high.

Except along coast, there are no highways. Working here we actually are pioneers, covering areas which had scarcely ever been traversed, crossing vertical precipices and wading through rapid-running rivers. On the well-vegetated mountain sides there are snakes 20 to 30 feet long and as thick as a man's waist. Some of them are man-eaters and we have to carry guns or pistols.

The tall-growing grass is a haven for insects which come swarming out after the frequent rains. Our arms and legs must be completely covered to avoid being bitten. The island population is sparse, and the distance between villages averages around 25 miles. At night we pitch camp and sleep in tents, rulers, they were easy prey for grasping officials and sharp practicing merchants who cheated them shamelessly. One needle, for instance, was commonly exchanged for 10 chickens.

During the Japanese occupation in 1939, the KMT troops along with various officials retreated to the Li and Miao region in the interior where they plundered and oppressed the inhabitants. Every day 250 able-bodied men had to be chosen to work for their "rulers." When the Japanese began pressing into the mountain fastness the KMT sought hideouts deep in the interior and press-ganged the people to cart their supplies and

Cross Hainan Jungle

posting guards for protection against prowling beasts.

Despite the physical obstacles, however, all of the workers are determined to carry the project through to completion. Plans for the telephone system were mapped in January of this year, surveying began in April and work got under way in June. The Land Reform Committee assigned government workers to accompany us to explain policy and the significance of setting up a telephone system to the peasants, most of whom had never heard of a phone.

Some idea of the cultural lag on Hainan Island can be seen from the fact that more than 30 different dialects are spoken. For us newcomers from the mainland, gesturing is the principal form of communication.

The islanders have been very cooperative. When we transport equipment they cut down the tall trees which would obstruct our work. They have instructed us not to place our timber where the white ants are liable to eat it. In June a heavy three-day rain flooded the area and we were afraid that our equipment might be carried away by the surging waters. However, the peasants, who anticipated the flood, moved all our supplies up into the mountains for us.

As I write this, Hainan is being baked under a summer sun and a 100-degree Fahrenheit temperature is commonplace. However, all of us engaged on this project continue to advance the work and we have pledged to complete the telephone system by the end of the year.

personal belongings over cliffs and precipices. Skeletons of the many who died of exhaustion and starvation still lie where they fell, overgrown with wild grass and brush.

In 1940, goaded beyond endurance by KMT cruelty, the local inhabitants planned a revolt to begin on July 17. However, the inhabitants of Peisha county started the revolt five days ahead of schedule. Although the initial surprise attack was successful the lack of proper leadership and organization made it impossible to defeat the KMT, which cruelly suppressed the revolt; more than 100,000 lost their lives.

The KMT blood-letting was a crucial test for the people. A few of the chiefs and upper class surrendered and some went over to the Japanese. But the strongest retreated farther into the mountains and began a guerilla struggle.

Isolated for some time they eventually made contact with the forces of resistance leader General Fung Pei-chi and were supplied with munitions and provisions as well as experienced cadres to help reorganize and train them. Their strength gradually grew and in 1944 the county of Pei-sha was finally liberated by General Fung's troops. When the KMT was completely driven out of the immediate area in 1947 the entire Li and Miao population was liberated.

WITH the liberation of all of Hainan the people's government policy of equality for all nationalities has been put into effect. A recent report reveals that living conditions for both the Li and Miao have been improving. In the first year of liberation there was barely enough to eat; last year the people had something left over; and this year, there is a bumper crop. Vast stretches of wasteland have been reclaimed, and emulation drives in agricultural production have sprung up among the people.

The government has spent large sums of money for education and medical work among the minorities on Hainan. Schools and evening classes for adults have been set up. Health work is being carried out by 1,355 trained medical workers and 1,219 midwives sent by the government to the minority regions.

On July 1, 1952, the autonomous regional people's government of the Li and Miao people was inaugurated in Lohtung county. This step was the culmination of two years of preparation.

— *CHEN KUO-HUA*

A short story by Liu Shu-tang

The Red Flag Team

Translated by Peng Fu-ming

THE sun burned down out of a cloudless sky, the cicadas sang loudly; it was as hot as in the engine room of a steamer. Two bright red flags stood by the side of a rice field by the dike. In the field several young peasants were energetically hoeing, singing as they worked, sweat running down their glistening brown backs.

Li Dachun, leader of the group, straightened up and called out, "Let's take a rest after we've finished this field!" Erchu kept on working, and protested, "How about doing another field first?" But Li Dachun said they'd be too played out unless they rested, so when they came to the end of the field they lay on the grass under two big willows. One or two lit their long pipes.

"Look!" Erchu suddenly said, "Dachun's wife is bringing our food!" He ran toward her, calling out, "Aiya! You're a heroine to keep running around so near your time!"

Chinchua turned to Dachun, grinning. "You've certainly responded to the call to increase production!" Matung chimed in, "Well, they married out of their own free will, so everything runs smoothly," and the others guffawed.

Chü-hua, Dachun's wife, came into the shade with her food-laden baskets. Erchu began to dish out the rice porridge, and Chinchua bowed respectfully to Chü-hua, saying, "Thanks very much for bringing our food when you're so near your time."

"It's only a trifle," she said. Then, as the men ate, she thought of something. "This fall, our women's team ought to enter an emulation drive with you." Erchu put in, "Sister-in-law Li, that's a good idea. You lead the women's team, and Dachun will lead us!"

"Dachun," someone called out, "how far has the Liyun team over on Sandy Hill got by now?" Dachun thought a moment, and replied "They're only four or five *mou* behind us." Matung jumped up. "Aiya," he shouted, "hurry up and eat; we'll grab forty winks and get to work again!" The rest of the food disappeared quickly, Chü-hua gathered up the bowls and set out for home.

Everyone except Matung settled down for a nap, but he couldn't sleep. He fidgeted for a while then grabbed a hoe and set to work again, waking up his companions when the sun had hardly reached the zenith. They all worked away at top speed, and Dachun admonished the others, "We don't want to go so fast that we get careless. We've got to root up every weed." The others chorused, "Don't worry, the championship flag is safely in our hands!"

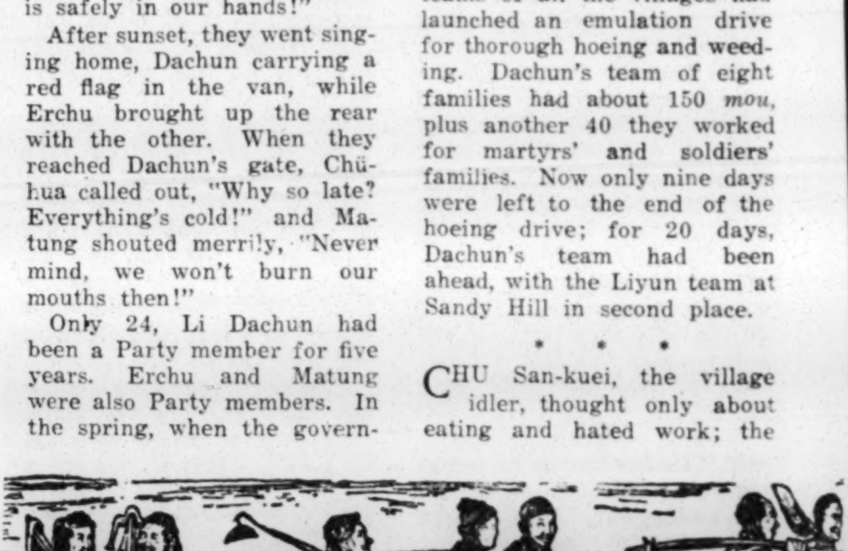
After sunset, they went singing home, Dachun carrying a red flag in the van, while Erchu brought up the rear with the other. When they reached Dachun's gate, Chü-hua called out, "Why so late? Everything's cold!" and Matung shouted merrily, "Never mind, we won't burn our mouths then!"

Only 24, Li Dachun had been a Party member for five years. Erchu and Matung were also Party members. In the spring, when the government called the peasants to plant cotton, Dachun's team had responded by growing the most, and the district government had awarded them the red flag. Later, aphids threatened the plants. Some superstitious peasants burned incense and kowtowed to Buddhas, but Dachun's team followed the government's advice, bought a spray from the city, and got rid of the pests. They set an example for the whole district, and thus they were awarded the second red flag.

This month, the mutual aid teams of all the villages had launched an emulation drive for thorough hoeing and weeding. Dachun's team of eight families had about 150 *mou*, plus another 40 they worked for martyrs' and soldiers' families. Now only nine days were left to the end of the hoeing drive; for 20 days, Dachun's team had been ahead, with the Liyun team at Sandy Hill in second place.

* * *

CHU San-kuei, the village idler, thought only about eating and hated work; the



weeds in his field were higher than the plants. Dachun wanted to persuade him to join the team, to help him get rid of his bad habits and become an honest farmer. So one day Dachun said to the others, "I have a proposal. Let's have Chu San-kuei join us, and try to bring him forward. . . ."

"No!" Chinchua cut him short, waving his hands in protest. "We can't take in such horse dung. Remember, it only takes a spoonful of dirt to spoil a whole pot of soup!" Some of the others concurred. Erchu and Matung, being Party members, didn't oppose openly; but they were fed up with Chu San-kuei just the same. Dachun merely said, "Well, let's talk it over at noontime."

During the meal, Dachun said, "If we don't take him, no other team will, and he'll get worse. Sure as I live and breathe, if he doesn't get a crop he'll turn thief. The PLA and the Party have shed blood and sweat for us; wouldn't we be shamed if San-kuei makes ducks and drakes of his money and sells out his land?" Nobody said anything, but went on eating.

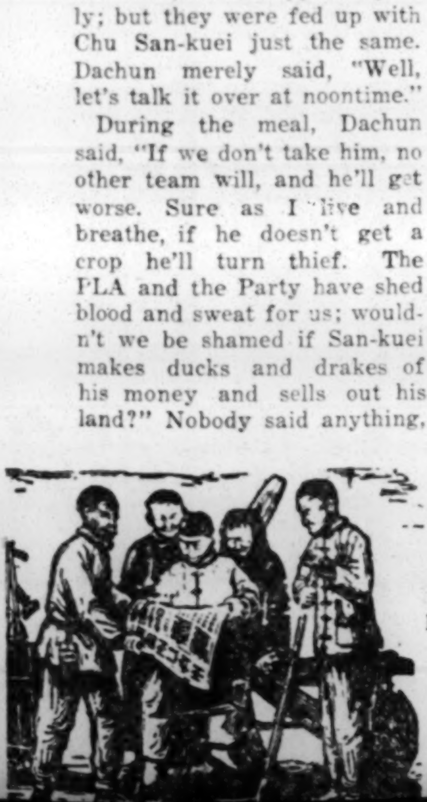
Finally Erchu and Matung blurted out their agreement. "We were too selfish before," they admitted, "and we didn't act like Party members should." At last the others also assented to Dachun's proposal.

Later, Dachun went to look for Chu San-kuei. "The weeds in your field are like bushes," he said. "How about joining our team?"

"Good!" Chu immediately agreed. "But . . . I can't supply the food when we work on my field; you know I can hardly get along as it is. And I can't work with you tomorrow, because I've already made an engagement with my father-in-law."

Dachun succeeded in controlling his temper. "It doesn't matter about the food. But you'll have to turn up for work tomorrow. If you don't, nobody will accept you." After much argument, he prevailed upon Chu to start work the following day.

The next morning Chu appeared with a small, rusty spade. He dawdled along at his work, humming snatches from Peking opera. Chinchua got more and more irritated, and at last, stamping his feet,



Mutual aid team.

by Hsueh Yu

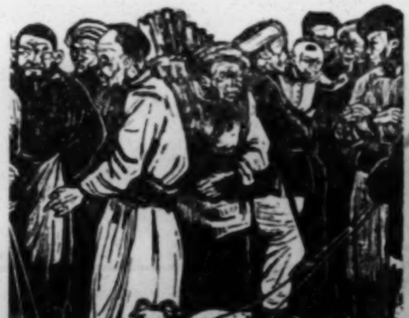
he shouted, "Chu San-kuei! You devil's spawn, we're hoeing your own field, yet you're lying down on the job. What'll you do when we work on somebody else's land?"

Chu pretended not to hear, and Dachun interposed. "The weeds are so thick, that little spade of yours is useless," he said to Chu. "I'll get you something better." He went home and got his wife's hoe, which he lent to Chu.

Everybody worked fervently, vying with each other, but none could keep up with Dachun. Everybody, that is, except Chu, who lackadaisically lagged far behind. Chinchua kept glaring at him, and worked himself into a passion. Unable to contain himself any longer, he leaped at Chu and struck him in the face. "You lazy bastard," he shouted. "You ought to be ashamed. Dachun has done 10 times as much as you have, and you've even left half the weeds in the ground. Our team doesn't want you!" Chu, furious, raised his hoe, blustering that he'd kill Chinchua.

Dachun ran up and separated them. Livid with rage, Chinchua shouted, "Brother Dachun, you've done 10 times his work, you've only scored 10 points, and he's got five points for only hoeing half a plot. It isn't fair, and I won't work with him!" Chu threw down his hoe and scurried away; Chinchua started after him, but Dachun grabbed his arm. "Calm down," he said. "The only way is to bring him around gradually." The others muttered among themselves and began work again, but without much enthusiasm.

After a while, Dachun turned to Matung and Erchu. "You two Party members should take the lead in working hard," he said. "Then others will follow. It's to your own advantage to clear Chu San-kuei's field of weeds; otherwise, how can we repay for the hardships the Party has gone through for us! Erchu, remember your brother was shot by the landlord's armed bullies when he tried to settle scores . . . this land has come to us all through the blood shed by your brother and many others. . . . " Erchu and Matung, their heads bent,



Market

by Feng Jen

acknowledged the truth of what he said.

That evening, Dachun went to see Chu. The room was like a pigsty, and Chu lay on the *kang*, facing the wall. Dachun asked him if he was sick, but Chu only replied dispiritedly that he had had a fight with his "old woman." Dachun guessed what was the matter. "I guess you haven't had any supper," he said mildly. "Come over and eat with us." Chu, embarrassed, followed him.

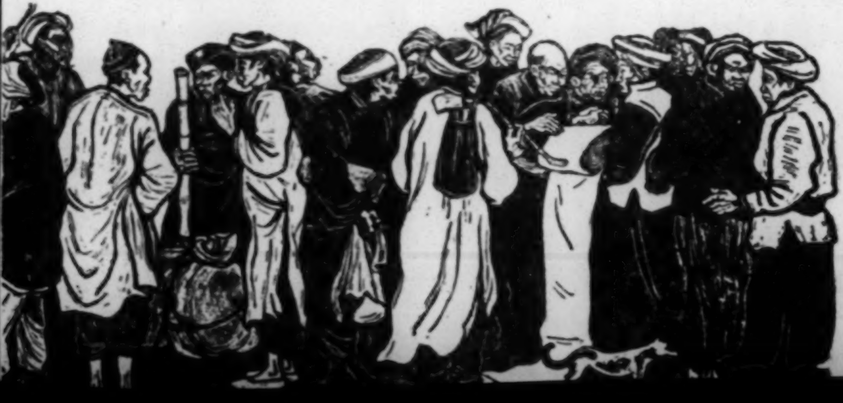
Dachun shared a *kang* with Chu that night, and used all the arguments he could think of to bring Chu around. "Brother San-kuei," he said, "when you were in the city, you spent everything you earned drinking and whoring. You never thought then that you'd own land one day. Now that you've been given land, how can you be so lazy? You're like someone who is cured of a bad disease and then forgets how bad the pain was ...

"Remember how your father died?" Dachun went on. "By hard work, he managed to buy two *mou* of land; then he was flooded out when Second Tiger changed the course of the river. When your father protested, Second Tiger kicked him to death ... Don't forget, your father died for the land. Now you've got enough land, but you don't work. How can you face your neighbors?"

Chu was silent.

But the next morning, San-kuei showed up and even showed a little enthusiasm, hoeing more than a *mou* by sundown. Chinchua said on the sly to Dachun, "There's still some hope for San-kuei after all!" Dachun grinned and said, "I thought you said something about a little dirt spoiling the soup?" Somewhat out of countenance, Chinchua replied, "I was too selfish to figure it out before."

But now the Liyun team was beating them by four or five *mou* a day, which made Chinchua frantic. "We've each got to finish another *mou* every day," he announced. "Anybody who doesn't is a dog!" Thinking it was aimed at him, San-kuei lost heart,



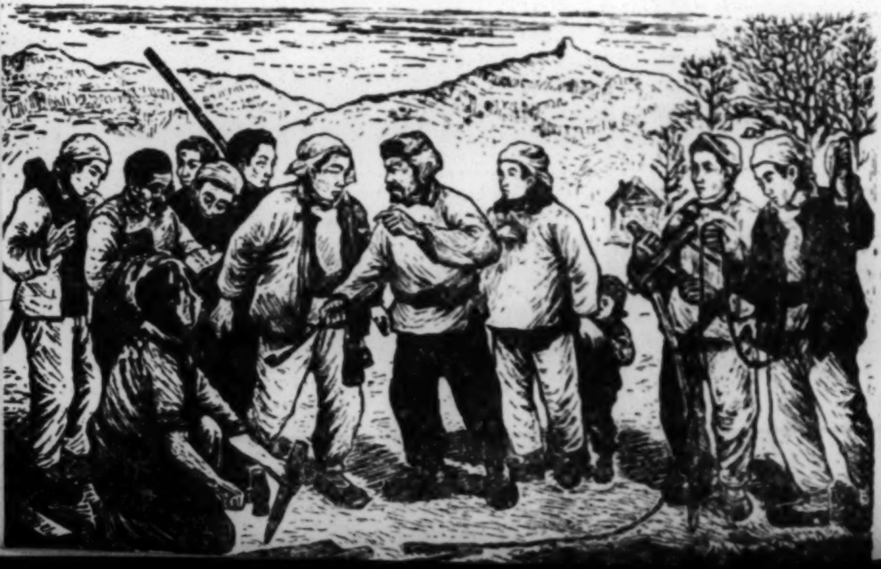
complained of a headache, and left the field. Dachun, afraid this might dishearten the others, tried to cheer them up. "Let's each do one more *mou* per day and overtake the Li-yun team," he said. "Don't let San-kuei get you down." And everybody worked with fresh vigor.

At noon, when Dachun went to look for San-kuei, the room was empty; he learned that San-kuei's brother-in-law had come for him. That night, he went again, and found San-kuei huddling, miserably sobbing, under a quilt. He grabbed the quilt away, and after persistent questioning he found that San-kuei's wife had insisted upon a divorce, which had been granted by the district government.

"Don't feel sore, brother San-kuei," Dachun consoled him. "She didn't marry you of her own free will, you know. Even though she was very progressive and head of the Women's Association, her father made her marry you to save her from the landlord's armed corps when they came back .. Naturally, she wouldn't stay married to an idler. From now on, you better work hard and look for someone who's willing to marry you; otherwise you'll stay a bachelor the rest of your life."

He really put effort into his work the next day, and hoed more than one *mou*. The others were glad, for his sake, and did their best to encourage him. "San-kuei," said Chinchua straightforwardly,

Measuring the plots confiscated from the landlord prior to distribution to the farmers.



"I found fault too much with you before. I apologize for offending you." Erchu threw his arms around San-kuei's neck and exclaimed, "San-kuei, you're a brick! As the saying has it, 'A wastrel who repents is more precious than gold!'"

Dachun, grinning broadly, shook hands with San-kuei, who could not help laughing with joy.

Before the emulation drive was over, San-kuei hoed three and a half *mou* in two days, and was given seven points by the other team members. Delegates from the local Peasants' Association inspected the work of the various teams, and awarded Dachun's team first prize, giving the Liyun team second prize.

DACHUN took part in a district meeting held in honor of his team. The district director, beaming, shook hands with him. "Comrade Dachun," he said, "you are a real model worker and Party member. All village workers should learn from you," and Dachun, embarrassed, smiled. He felt it was the greatest honor that had ever been paid him. And he was also invited to make a speech.

The district government awarded Dachun's team a red flag and three new spades. For his successful attempt to reform San-kuei, Dachun was presented with a banner bearing the words "Model Worker," and other gifts.

Later, the county government called a conference of labor heroes and heroines so that they could exchange their experiences. When Dachun returned to the village from the conference, he wore a silver "Model Worker" medal and carried white cloth, soap and towels that had been awarded him.

The villagers flocked around him, plying him with questions. He told them about the tractors and other machines he had seen, and of all his listeners, San-kuei was the most excited. "I'm going to work harder," he said, "then I can share in these honors."

When the team works in the fields, the three red flags are always fluttering close by. They stand out brightly against the green foliage, and every once in a while the team members glance at them proudly.

FEUDAL TIES BROKEN

WU DA-CHEN

WEST Szechuen was long known for the richness of its soil and the iron rule of the feudal masters who controlled it. Though its surroundings, its fertile fields and rolling hills, make beautiful scenery, this region in west China before liberation was filled with the grief and sorrow of its peasantry.

The suffering of the peasants under the landlords and their lackeys left its mark even after liberation. Two-thirds of the year the peasants, too poor to eat the rice they grew, existed on a diet of potatoes. They were clothed in rags winter and summer. Males were subject to the ropes of Kuomintang officialdom which bound them and delivered them into Chiang's army. Debt piled on debt and it was no wonder that some of those thus trampled on and poverty-stricken found themselves enmeshed in the web of the evil doings carried out by the landlords and their hired gangsters against their own kind.

YIAN, a town of 10,000 lying some 25 miles from the provincial capital of Chengtu, was a place with such a background. The fears and beliefs ingrained during centuries of feudalism cannot be wiped out in a day, especially when the reminder of KMT terror is ever present. Yian was a nest of big landlords, ruffians and KMT secret agents. The peasants, kept in ignorance all their lives, were hard put to overcome the propaganda and rumors spread by their former masters. How could it be, they reasoned, that there was now a government that wanted to help them? This was against everything the past had so harshly taught them.

Thus when we first began our land reform work we were up against two great problems: the peasants had grave doubts about the sincerity of the new government, and, out of fear of the landlords and their hangers-on, they were reluctant to tell us their real condition, to point out and accuse those who had ground them down for so many years. For example, it was well known that the former masters of Yian still had rifles, hand grenades and other weapons hidden away, but the peasants were afraid to report such facts.

The initial step in bringing the peasants to participate in the land reform was to get them to realize that at the bottom of all their past suffering and exploitation were the landlords. If they wanted to live free and happy lives henceforth, the rule of their former oppressors had to be smashed completely.

In explaining land reform we emphasized the policy of suppressing the reactionary elements and punishing all those who attempted to sabotage that policy, for saboteurs would be dealing a blow against bettering the conditions of the peasants themselves. However, at first, it seemed to the peasants that our words were not enough assurance of safety against reprisals from those they would have to expose and accuse.

At the First Delegates' meeting the ice was broken when a few farm laborers got up enough courage to accuse one landlord openly for his past inhuman exploitation and persecution. This particular member of the gentry had been directly responsible for the death of a number of peasants. In the course of delivering their charges against the landlord, the accusers also voluntarily acknowledged their forced participation in the landlord-led rebellion against the new government in the first days following the liberation. So affected by the details of this landlord's crimes were many of the onlooking peasants that they too joined in the accusation. Confronted by the aroused family members of his victims and faced with overwhelming evidence, the landlord eventually confessed.

It was at this point that we made clear the government policy regarding peasants who had been made to participate in landlords' gangs. Despite their previous beguilement by the landlords, it was declared before all that the farm laborers and some of the delegates were the victims of their exploiters and were not guilty of any crime. The effect of this action was im-

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WU DA-CHEN is a student at Hwahsi University in Chengtu, Szechuen, the old foreign-run West China Union University. Along with thousands of students from universities throughout the nation, he went to the countryside as a member of a land reform working team this past spring. In this article he recounts his experiences in helping the farmers break the centuries-old feudal bonds and lay the groundwork for a new and better life.—Editor.

Peasant in Sinkiang's Turfan Basin proudly holds bunches of area's famed grapes picked from his own vineyard.

mediate—the unnecessary doubts and fears held by the peasants were dispelled.

For the first time these people began to realize that here was a new government, one which meant what it said. Its chief aim was to show them who were their friends and who were their enemies. This could only be realized by the participation of all the peasants, with their agreement and understanding from the beginning to the conclusion of land reform.

TRYING to get around the land reform regulations was a chief trick of a number of the more recalcitrant landlords. They tried to hide their property, and went so far as to bribe some farm hands to help them. This method was doubly diabolic since it also served as a means of silencing the farm hand from exposing the landlord for fear of being involved himself. However, as in the case of those who had been coerced into rebellion, these peasants were not the guilty ones and it was constantly emphasized that such practices were solely the responsibility of the briber. Once they broke with the landlord they had nothing to fear.

Since the government had kept its word regarding peasants who had fought with landlord gangs it was not long before those who had hidden landlords' property began to come forth and acknowledge their acts. Once the first few reported, the rest were not far behind. More and more the peasants of Yian were beginning to distinguish between friends and enemies.

At the same time charges against the landlords and their flunkies were brought forth at Public Judgment Meetings and the most flagrant of the criminals received stern punishment. This not only gave cause for reflection to the small-time operators but it was a source of strength to the great majority of the peasants. Here it was, right in front of their eyes for all to see—they had indeed become the masters and the accumulated debts owed them by the old feudal society were being paid in full.

Cognizant of their new place in society, the development of the people was rapid. They could see things more and more clearly. They could now understand that their former poverty and sorrow were not heaven-sent, nor the result of "laziness" and inability. The source of their misery came from the system they had lived under and now they were on the way to ridding them-

Ningpo State Farm recently held open house for Chekiang peasants who came to inspect bumper crop of early spring rice grown from a new variety of improved seed.

selves of it forever. Once this became clear there was no stopping them; the peasants of Yian were bent on turning over to a new society, one in which they were the masters.

Within 25 days of the time we began our work of mobilizing the peasants, the task was completed. On the foundation of an aroused peasantry who clearly grasped the basic issues, land reform work went into high gear. For all of us who participated it was a lesson of the greatest significance to take part in the process by which these once downtrodden people

AVERAGE YUNNAN FARM

CHINA'S peasants are enjoying a new-found prosperity. Land reform, which has destroyed the feudal landlord system in the countryside, has brought on a new day for 80 percent of the nation's population, the peasants. Not only is there enough to eat but, for the first time, the peasant has extra money with which to buy articles he never dreamed of owning a few short years ago.

Tzechung, a county in Szechuen province, is a clear-cut example of the rising purchasing power of the peasant following land reform. The increase here this year averaged 25 percent over 1951. Twenty-four percent of the peasants' income went for purchases of production tools and 76 percent for living expenses. The aggregate purchasing power of the entire county's peasantry exceeded the total capital of private industrial and commercial enterprises in Tzechung by 14 times.

Before liberation, peasant Hsiao Chen-hua had to turn over 70 percent of his crop to the landlord. The result was that despite back-breaking labor all year round he scarcely had enough to keep his family going.

When land reform was carried out in 1951 the four members of Hsiao's family received a total of 3.9 *mou* of arable land and a portion of some other land. That year Hsiao harvested 2,000 *catties* of grain plus corn and potatoes which were enough for the entire family. Side occupations, such as making straw hats and raising livestock, yielded an extra income of Y865,000.

This year saw the family's purchasing power continue to rise. In addition to a bumper rice and wheat crop, an extra raised themselves up and began to take their rightful place in society.

THE carrying out of land reform was not meant to obstruct the peasants from engaging in spring planting. We government workers were instructed to discuss the need for increasing production with them. Following the distribution of farm utensils and fertilizers a meeting was called to draw up plans for raising agricultural output.

HOUSEHOLD

mou of sugar was planted. They figure that total income this year will be about Y1,000,000 more than in 1951. Besides regular expenses, the family will spend about Y2,000,000 in buying items which will give them a richer and fuller life. This figure is 714 percent above pre-liberation days and 238 percent over 1951.

Because of the family's increased purchasing power, living conditions are improving. A complete renovation of house and furniture is being planned. Looking ahead to the New Year holidays, the family foresees a big celebration along with purchases of new clothing. With winter coming on, paper, books and writing equipment will be bought, for the entire family is now going to school, Hsiao and his wife both attending the winter literacy class.

At the meeting we outlined new planting methods and experiences gathered in other parts of the country which would enable the peasants of Yian to increase their rice and cotton production. Naturally, at first, there were many doubts.

Molded by the old society, the peasant is conservative. This we knew and we were prepared to reason out whatever hesitations he might have: for example, that it would be impossible to produce 500 kilograms of rice per *mou*. One grizzled old peasant said, "I've farmed for more than 60 years and I never heard of a *mou* turning out that much rice. It can't be true!"

It was no easy matter to convince them. The fact that even if they produced more in the old days it only meant a bigger share for the landlord and the KMT tax collector, was ingrained in their outlook. Only after many examples of the use of new methods and their results in other parts of China were patiently gone into and the point made that higher yields not only benefited them but the country at large did doubts begin to vanish.

The tide was turned when one of the peasants said, "For the sake of guarding what we have already won I pledge myself to reap more than 500 kilograms per *mou* in my fields! I'll study and use new methods and I challenge all of you to do the same!"

Several others rose and spoke in the same vein. All around one could see and feel the reaction among the others, even the old and most stubborn ones. The very atmosphere changed and silence, gloom and hesitation gave way to excitement, activity and belief. Pledge after pledge was made to increase production.

THE distribution of money for the purchase of materials needed in production was a matter which required educating the peasants. More than 3,000,000 kilograms of confiscated rice, which had been changed into money, had to be divided up and loaned to the peasants for use in production. At first they gave little thought to such matters as purchasing plows, scythes, pigs, oxen, and so forth.

We persuaded them at last that the need for increased production was vital, that once production went up their own livelihood would also become better. In addition, the 1,600 poorest peasants of the town were given sufficient provisions to enable them to embark upon spring planting. The effect of all this was that it not only solved many of their difficulties but also strengthened the peasants' confidence in production activity and in the policy of the government.

In order to aid the peasants in their drive to increase production we organized them in the construction of new ponds, widening and dredging irrigation and drainage ditches and abolishing the age-old feudal water regulations whereby a peasant who had no pond was unable to use another's water no matter how much of a surplus the latter had. By installing a democratic system of water distribution the possibility of drought, something which had plagued the town for decades, was greatly minimized.

This last step was a small one in comparison with the others, yet each was of the utmost importance in breaking down once and for all the straight-jacket of ideas which had so thoroughly bound these peasants in the old society. And with this change in ideas has come the realization that a new day has come for all of them.

Balance sheet of

TWO YEARS OF TERROR IN THE PHILIPPINES

Manuel Cruz

IN April 1950 the US-installed Philippine government decided to muster all available forces to launch a terroristic drive to suppress the national liberation movement of the Filipino people. The *Hukbong Mapagpalaya Bayan* (Army of Liberation of the Country) was then eight years old, steeled, first during the more than three years of Japanese occupation and, later, in the determined and stubborn struggle to carry out the fight against landlordism, puppetry, and foreign domination—in short, for a free and independent Philippines.

By 1950 the HMB had grown too big and powerful simply to be bullied and pushed around. Because of this the enemies of the people were frightened, and more than at any previous time they felt the ground crumbling from under them.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines, as the suppressive troops of the Quirino administration are officially called, were ready to use (and did use) during their two-year plan of "handling the Huks," full-dress combat battalions, complete with flame-throwers, tanks, police dogs and air support. Paid assassins were also thrown in, after a price had been placed on the head of the better-known leaders of the liberation movement. At the same time, they made plans to start a reign of terror in city and town, suspending *habeas corpus* when necessary so that they could arrest workers and progressive intellectuals on mere suspicion.

In Washington, President Truman gave his blessing to the

MANUEL CRUZ, well known progressive Filipino newspaperman, is at present visiting Peking as a member of the Philippine delegation to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference.—Editor.

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operations against the Huks and pledged that if necessary they would have use of the US air force and its napalm bombs. Meanwhile, Philippine Defense Secretary Ramon Magsaysay bragged that he would deal the final blow to the Huks.

The two-pronged attack upon being put into effect immediately met with opposition from many quarters as "not the best method of dealing with the widespread discontent of the Filipino people with their government." However, heedless of saner minds and sober judgment, Quirino and his puppet administration went on.

Thus, brutal methods of wiping out entire villages by setting them on fire, in complete disregard of peasant lives and property as well as age, sex, political leanings and religion, were begun on a wide scale. The government's forces subjected the 800 square mile area of the Candaba swamps (long the source of food not only for the HMB forces but for many villages) to carpet bombing with napalm, kerosene and various other types of incendiary in an attempt to destroy every living thing within the area.

The government forces conducted several major and minor punitive operations against the forces of the people's liberation movement, terroristically christened: "Operation Killer," "Operation Papaya," "Operation Omaha," etc. In 1951 alone, the PAF engaged the Huks in 1,559 engagements, including 14 major operations.

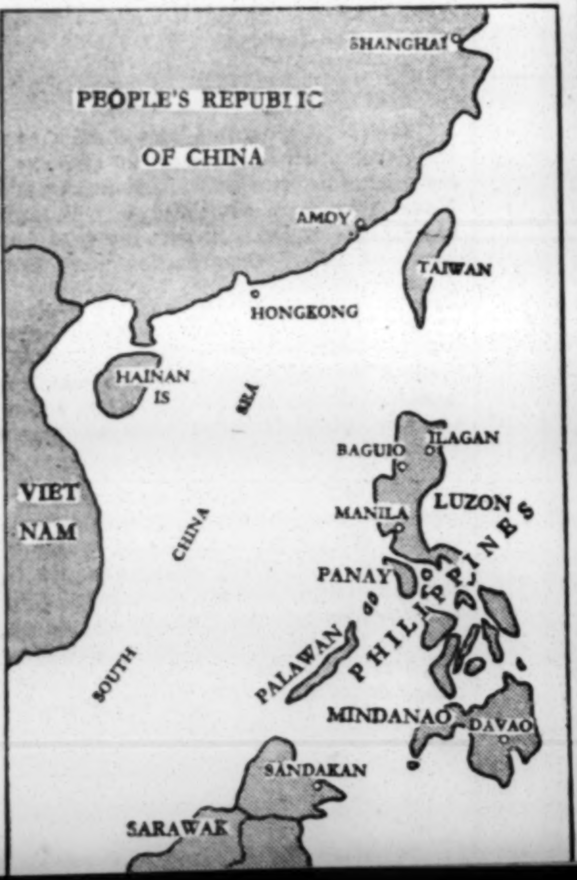
In the course of this drive they were able to get at some ranking HMB commanders. An early dawn shot by one of their paid assassins, on September 7, 1951, proved fatal to Guillermo Capadocia, who died from loss of blood a few hours later at his headquarters in Panay. In Manila, after losing three men and several wounded, they were able to corner Nick Pamintuan, overall Manila Huk forces commander. Early this year, they got William Pomeroy, an ex-American GI who joined the Philippine liberation movement because he believed in what the Filipino people were fighting for, together with his Filipino wife, the ex-Civil Service examiner, Celia Mariano.

A few weeks before these operations were started, AFP Brig.-Gen. Claro B. Lizardo, of the Second Military Area, estimated that the Huks had at least 30,000 effectives all over the country and some 5,000,000 sympathizers, including their reserves. For the first year of their two-year operation the government did not release any figures on casualties. Last year, it announced that Huk losses totaled 9,152 killed, wounded and captured, and placed its own losses at one-tenth of that figure. However, long-time observers of the Philippine scene are inclined to believe that government losses were definitely trimmed down for public consumption.

The *Manila Daily Bulletin*, spokesman for American capital in the Philippines, commenting on HMB losses, as reported by the *Agence France Presse* on March 31, 1952, was puzzled by the fact that the Huks could "afford to lose 4,475 firearms in a year and still have enough arms and ammunition to be able to strike at will." The paper argued: "As far as we know, not a single firearm other than those left here by the Americans and the Japanese had been captured by the Huks."

"Every week," the same paper declared, "sometimes oftener, the newspapers carry stories of Huk raids . . . The army every now and then mounts ambitious—and expensive—operations, which more often than not, end in negative reports or with the report: 'Burnt so many number of huts newly evacuated by the Huks.' "

The paper also noted that in spite of Magsaysay's tireless supervision of troops in the field, some units had been reported reluctant to attack Huk concentrations. "Inefficiency of some unit commanders," the paper went on to say, "had also resulted in the massing of troops against unconfirmed concentrations of Huks, like the classic 'Operation Coconut,' staged on the Bontoc peninsula, Quezon province, last year. The name of the drive was


SHANGHAI
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
AMOY
TAIWAN
HONGKONG
HAINAN IS
SEA
CHINA
SOUTH
VIET NAM
BAGUIO
ILAGAN
LUZON
MANILA
PANAY
PHILIPPINES
PALAWAN
MINDANAO
DAVAO
SANDAKAN
SARAWAK

given by newspapermen who covered the operations. Not a single Huk was encountered. Only coconut trees. The expense incurred would rather be forgotten by the army."

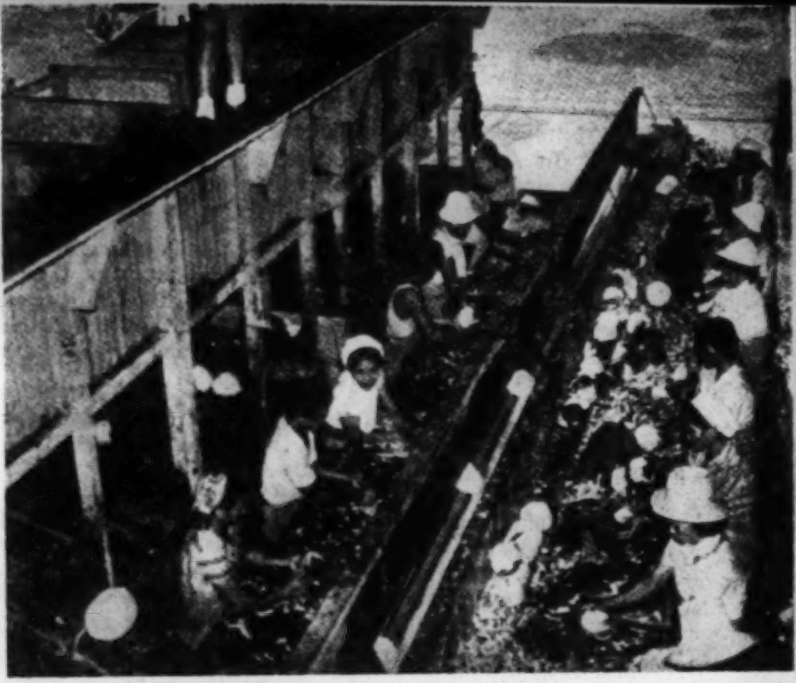
HAND in hand with its military operation the government launched an open attack on the civilian population. During the two-year period, mass arrests took place which were designed to cow the people into submission, destroy all civil liberties, and to spearhead the terror against the Communist Party of the Philippines and the democratic trade unions affiliated with the Philippine Congress of Labor Organizations.

On October 18, 1950, Magsaysay's Manila Military Intelligence Service arrested 105 alleged Communists in Manila and the nearby provinces. Five days later *habeas corpus* was suspended despite mass demonstrations from quarters of varied political leanings. By the first week of February 1951, 500 "Huk sympathizers" in the First Military Area of Luzon were rounded up and tortured in an attempt to force them to reveal the positions and movements of Huk forces. The following week another 400 "suspects" were taken in the six provinces of Luzon, and 25 more in one province in North Luzon.

It was during this period of mass arrests, which included the deportation of some 30,000 Chinese, that the Quirino government arrested two union leaders, Amado V. Hernandez and Jose Nava, who were sentenced to life imprisonment and death respectively. Hernandez was the president of the Philippine Congress of Labor Organizations and Nava headed the National Association of Peasants.

Of the 30 "Communist suspects" arrested in Manila on October 18, 1950, one was released immediately. The others underwent a six months' trial, which was severely criticized by many sections of the public. Six were sentenced to death, three acquitted, while the rest received prison terms ranging up to 17 years.

The day the sentences were read by Judge Castello the court was surrounded by bristling tanks and soldiers with fixed bayonets. The authorities were fully aware of public reaction to the trials and the effect which the sentences would have. These sentences were against all principles of justice and endangered the freedom of the Filipino people to espouse an idea which Quirino and his US-dominated government disagreed with. One version has it that the judge, when reading the sentences, was guarded on either side by two men with drawn pistols, one of



Philippine workers in a coconut factory.

whom was his brother. After the reading, the judge was to fly to Washington for an indefinite "leave of absence," to wait until everything calmed down.

Direct repressive measures against the ranks of labor was the next step. Cancellation of labor union permits followed. The first to fall victim to such a measure was the Congress of Labor Organizations of the Philippines, which had 78 trade union affiliates, including the only newspaperman's organization, the Philippine Newspapermen's Guild. Its permit to operate as a legitimate union was cancelled on April 4, 1951.

With this record of reaction in the Philippines, US President Truman, on May 19, 1952, declared: "Communist insurrection in the Philippines has been brought under control . . . much progress has been made in the Far East. . ." At the same time, on his visit to the US, Magsaysay received many accolades from his Washington masters and was given a "hero's" welcome.

However, the enemies of the Filipino people have been in too great a hurry to announce their "victory" in a struggle which will certainly go on so long as they go against the will of the people. On August 26 this year, the people's liberation army commemorated the 54th anniversary of the struggle against Spanish enslavement by striking in force in parts of Luzon.

TIME and events are running against the Quirino government in the Philippines. The government likes to think that, having assassinated three of some 80 top ranking Huk field commanders and having jailed some Huk workers in Manila and neighboring towns, it has solved the "dissidence" problem in the islands. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The past two years of terror in the Philippines has only further widened the gulf between the government and the people. A nation-wide movement to limit the power and authority of Magsaysay's Military Intelligence Service has swept the country. A government which not only attempts to justify its inhuman methods of dealing with the growing discontented elements of the population and which is ruining the economic and social life of the people cannot hope to have the support of the mass of the people.

To describe the situation as it really exists in the Philippines today would require a complete book. However, an insight into the way things are developing in the protracted war between Philippine progress and reaction, between the US-manufactured Philippine government and the growing strength and enlightenment of the people can be gathered from the words of one of the penpushers of Philippine reaction itself, Teodoro M. Locsin. His fear that, if the deterioration of his government continues unchecked, he may some day have to go down with it, prompted Locsin to cry:

"The ruling class is ruled by one principle: grab . . . Power and pleasure are the chief concerns of the government. Never have so few been so rich and so many been so poor! The end is predictable."

He further says, "Indeed but for the intervention of a friendly power, a former sovereign, the end would have long been here. 'The Communists,' Secretary of National Defense Ramon Magsaysay has repeatedly said, 'have 2,000,000 reserves.' The reserves are those the Republic has failed to serve, whose elementary needs the present regime has refused to fill. They may seem submissive; they are merely waiting. Their time will come."

Locsin's words are truer than he perhaps realizes. Their time will come! And that time is not very far off.

Shanghai's Economy Takes a New Turn

SHIH CHIA-WEI

MANIPULATORS of the China rumor mills to the contrary, Shanghai is a very much alive city today. This metropolis of more than 5,000,000 people is the country's key light industry center. In the three and a half years since liberation Shanghai has changed from a city which catered to a handful of rich Chinese and foreigners to one which is producing more and more for the growing local and national needs.

Under Kuomintang rule Shanghai's "prosperity" presented a glaring contrast to the ever-deepening economic crisis and bankruptcy in the interior. Because of the rapid growth of the civil war, social upheaval, widespread banditry and economic disintegration, many landlords, wealthy officials and traders fled to Shanghai. Concentration of a big surplus population and a large amount of idle capital created an abnormal boom in the city.

Beneath this surface "prosperity" lay clear signs of Shanghai's crumbling economy. With the exception of speculation, hoarding and blackmarketeering, business in general was bad. A good many businesses had been knocked out while fluctuations in commodity prices, shortage of raw materials and operating capital, and a sharp decline of markets because of the shrinking purchasing power of the general public all made for endless business difficulties. Factories and mills operated on a day-to-day basis, and many were forced to suspend operations entirely.

In the few months prior to liberation in May 1949 Shanghai largely relied on ECA shipments of rice and raw cotton to feed the population and keep the mills going.

Briefly stated, the old "prosperity" was built on two props of sand: economic crisis in the interior and foreign aid. The moment these were removed, Shanghai's "prosperity" ended.

A five-lane slum on Shanghai's Canton Road was recently torn down and rebuilt at government expense. Photo shows working class families moving into the new apartments.

THE advances made in Shanghai's economy since liberation have been outstanding. Despite the chaos handed down by the Chiang regime, the late 1949 and early 1950 KMT air force bombings and the State Department-directed sea blockade, Shanghai has lifted itself up and has taken a new lease on life. A stabilized nation-wide currency and the directing of her industries toward the fast developing market in the countryside has greatly aided in the economic rebirth of the city.

Immediately after liberation the property in the hands of the KMT government and high officials was nationalized. Thus state enterprises sprang up in 20 heavy industries as well as in the all-important textile industry containing more than 900,000 spindles. At first these state organs, headed by the State Cotton Yarn and Cloth Corporation, the State Foodstuffs Corporation and the People's Bank, were unable adequately to regulate the local markets. In autumn 1949, for instance, the grain market was still being manipulated by speculating merchants thus causing a rise in the price of rice followed by a general price increase.

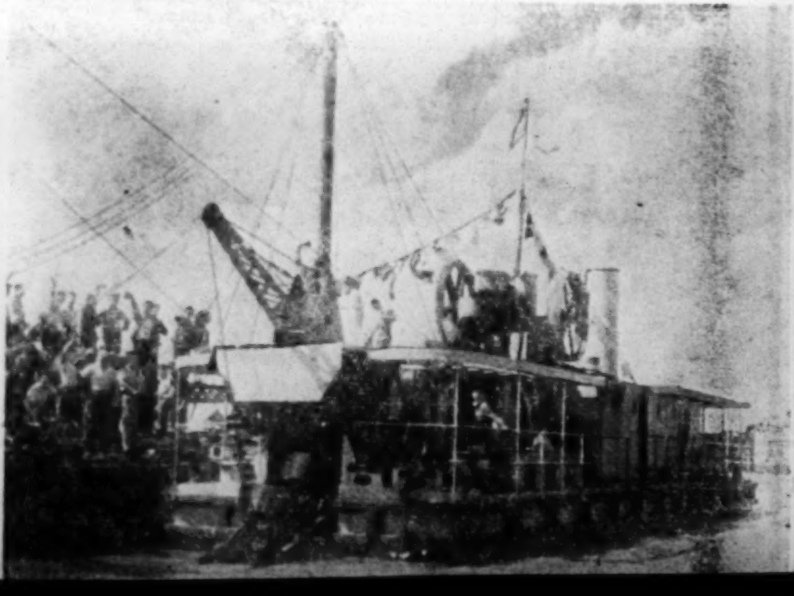
However, with the establishment of a number of state-operated retail shops the state enterprises have been able to supply the public with sufficient fuel, cloth, foodstuffs, and cooking oil to keep the market on an even keel.

Chiang's wild inflation played havoc with Shanghai's legitimate commerce and industry. Its effect on the life of the people was disastrous.

Shortly after liberation prices still continued to rise in Shanghai; speculators were rampant and they controlled the blackmarket, while silver dollars and US notes flooded the city. The new government swiftly prohibited all speculation and issued a new currency (*jen min piao*) in an effort to stop the tide of rising prices. Taking the parity unit rate at Y822 in August 1949 as a basis and comparing it with the December 1949 figure of Y2,861 we find that the price increase level in the first months of liberation was less than four times, an outstanding accomplishment.

To stabilize prices permanently the people's government and the People's Bank not only limited the amount of banknotes issued but drastically controlled essential daily necessities such as foodstuffs, fuel, cloth, cooking oil, etc. as

The first China-built dredger was recently launched at the Chung Hua Dockyard in Shanghai. A chain-bucket type, it can excavate 150 tons per hour. Its main features are a low height and shallow draft which will enable it to work on the many canals and small rivers in this part of China.



a reserve backing up the new currency. On December 4, 1949, the People's Victory Parity Bonds were issued. By December 1951 more than 30,000,000 shares (with a current value of approximately US$45,000,000) had been subscribed to in Shanghai. This response by the public was in sharp contrast to KMT days when savings went into gold, US dollars and commodities.

As a result of adequate provisions for protecting depositors' savings from devaluation in case of price fluctuations, there has been a noticeable increase in savings deposits since liberation. In 1950 the total deposits with the government-operated People's Bank was 18 times that of the previous year, and in 1951 deposits doubled those of 1950. The tendency for idle funds, which in the past were channeled into speculative and other non-productive activities, to flow into the People's Bank not only eliminated one of the basic causes of price fluctuations but also enabled the government to plan nationwide reconstruction.

In order to bring an end to the unreasonable price fluctuations it was necessary to speed up the interflow of goods between city and countryside so as to eliminate all possibility of even temporary shortages. By Chinese New Year in February 1950, for example, local speculators as usual had accumulated large stocks of rice and were bent on getting the traditional higher price during the holiday season. However, to frustrate this attempt

Better conditions in the countryside are reflected by the crowds of peasants filling local stores.

at rigging the market, the central government dumped huge amounts of rice and not only succeeded in keeping prices from rising but actually brought them down.

From the latter part of 1950 up through 1952 the general price level has tended to be stabilized since the government holds the necessary goods in hand to meet any emergency on the market. Moreover, early in the spring of 1952, there was an average price reduction of 11 percent on thousands of daily-use articles by government stores in Shanghai.

ONCE a dumping ground for the West, Shanghai's trade has taken a new turn. Not only has the city's foreign trade shown an increase over 1951 during the first three-quarters of this year but the total volume of business is on the upswing as a result of increased purchasing power of the peasants following land reform and the harvesting of bumper crops in East China. However, Shanghai's domestic trade is not limited to East China, the nation's largest administrative area, but far-off western provinces such as Sinkiang, Sikang and Yunnan are also being dealt with.

In the past, business came to a near standstill during the traditional summer "slack season." However, according to figures released by the East China Tax Bureau, the total volume of business in Shanghai in June this year was 8.4 percent above that of the same period last year. Moreover, as a result of government policy of building up private enterprise, contracts and loans have been extended to many of Shanghai's private industries during the summer.

IN the field of industry Shanghai's progress has been particularly outstanding.

Immediately after liberation private steel mills resumed operations after government help was extended. Their 1949 monthly production average topped the peak level after VJ Day in Shanghai. At the same time other industries have showed records of increased production: in 1951 cement output was 33.2 percent above 1950, brass was up 250 percent, and electrolytic copper 211 percent.

In light industry some production increases in 1951, as compared with 1950, were as follows: soap, 243 percent; paper, 269 percent; flour, 155 percent; matches, 141.5 percent; cigarettes, 136.2 percent; sulfuric acid, 150 percent and various educational supplies, 200-500 percent.

To help speed up the nation's industrial development, state enterprises and the People's Bank are giving all-out help to private industry. In 1950, when temporary raw material and power shortages threatened private enterprise, the government placed large orders which enabled it to carry on until the shortages were overcome. In April of this year, state corporations placed orders with more than 3,000 private firms in Shanghai representing 34 different trades. Again, state firms have bought up large quantities of industrial products from private factories in slack seasons and have sold the goods in other areas of the

Peasant Hsu Chin-kwei and his wife smile broadly after a day's shopping in town.

country or in local markets, thus helping private business and regulating the market.

Unlike the old days, private manufacturers today are able to get loans at reasonable rates. The People's Bank in Shanghai has aided the development of industrial production by extending many low interest loans to factories, enabling them to tide over difficult periods and reduce costs.

Of Shanghai's 5,000,000 population 1,070,000 are workers. United in trade unions, the support of the workers for the government has been an important factor in the city's industrial expansion. In both state and private enterprise the workers have assumed an attitude of responsibility toward the building of a new China. The old days of hopelessness and despair are gone and the various emulation drives in Shanghai's shops and factories and the new inventions and rationalizations contributed by thousands of ordinary workers on the job are eloquent testimony that the workers are fully aware of their new status —leaders of new China. As a result, production records are rapidly set, and just as rapidly surpassed.

The reconstruction of this city's one-time shattered economy has not neglected the problem of the unemployed—inherited from the KMT. Under the Chiang government the unemployed were left to shift for themselves and there was never any attempt to help them get work or even to provide them a food ration.

More than 100,000 unemployed have been found jobs, while unemployment relief totaling 60,000,000 *catties* of rice and Y700,000,000 in cash has been distributed.

In addition, long-neglected public works projects such as new roads, housing for workers, parks, sewage systems in workers' districts have all made use of unemployed workers, and technical schools and evening classes have been inaugurated where the unemployed receive training for specific trades. Between July 1950 and November 1951 more than 15,000 unemployed workers who had received technical training got jobs through the Labor Bureau.

With the increasing prosperity of local commerce and industry, and the large-scale construction projects under way all over new China, unemployment in Shanghai will soon be a thing of the past. Shanghai today is well on the way toward a new and hitherto undreamed of prosperity, which unlike past booms, is being built on firm foundations and may thus be expected to endure.

Prospects for Private Bu

One of the questions we are most frequently asked by readers abroad is, "What's happened to private business?" Some readers have sent in clippings from their local papers, dealing with the Wu Fan (Five Anti's—anti-bribery of officials, anti-tax evasion, anti-theft of government property, anti-cheating on government contracts and anti-spying out of economic information for speculation) Movement among private businessmen. Judging from such clippings, the American press had a field day with this subject, heralding the movement as a drive to "liquidate" private enterprise, to "wipe out the middle class" and so on.

Last month the Review submitted a list of questions concerning the state of private enterprise in new China today and the prospects for its future to Mr. Wu Yun-chu, a prominent Shanghai businessman. Mr. Wu is the owner of the Tien Yuan Electro-Chemical Works, the Tien Li Nitrogen Works and the Tien Chu Seasoning Factory. Following are the Review's questions and Mr. Wu's answers. —Editor.

QUESTION: What is the position of private business since the conclusion of Wu Fan?

ANSWER: The aim of Wu Fan was to do away with a number of undesirable hangovers from the old society. Some businessmen have changed their line of business but this has been because of the reorganization of the entire nation's economy. After Wu Fan, the national capitalists are still one of the four classes making up the people's united front as set forth in the Common Program. In a report on the successful conclusion of Wu Fan, Shanghai's Vice-mayor Pan Han-nien said that all private businessmen should, under the leadership of the national economy and the working class, enhance labor-capital relations, improve management, develop large-scale production and be determined not to resort to the old practices of doing business which Wu Fan did away with.

QUESTION: There have been many reports of the rapidly rising purchasing power of the peasants as a result of land reform. Has this

Business in New China

affected your own business?

ANSWER: The rising purchasing power of the peasants has extended the market of many private factories to the villages, helping to expand sales and increase production. Compared to pre-liberation days my three enterprises are doing very well. As of June of this year, production and sales in the Tien Yuan Electro-Chemical Works registered a 300 percent increase; the Tien Li Nitrogen Works an 800 percent increase; and the Tien Chu Seasoning Factory a 200 percent increase.

QUESTION: We read a great deal in the papers about how the government has aided private business. Has this aid been of much help?

ANSWER: The steps taken by the government, such as making advance payments at the time of placing orders, supplying raw materials to factories, arranging low-interest loans, etc., have been of great help. As a result, private business has been able to get circulating capital and thus increase its production. The low interest loans extended by the government have been particularly helpful in enabling private businessmen to reduce production costs.

QUESTION: What impressions did you gather at the Peking conference of private industrialists and businessmen this past summer regarding the future of private business?

ANSWER: Before arriving at Socialism we must have an industrialized nation. To do this we need a great deal of industry and materials. Except for some large-scale, new and basic industries such as steel, oil, etc., which need huge capital and should be run and operated by the government, private business can still, on its present base, use its manpower and equipment to develop. Enterprises which are of no use in the new China should be wound up and the capital transferred to useful industry, and idle capital should be used to establish new and needed industries. In addition, the nation-wide emphasis on exchange of goods between urban and rural areas is in need of experienced businessmen's talents. All in all, private business has an important role to play in the creating of a new China.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

US Breaks Off Peace Talks

THE breaking off of the Korean armistice talks in early October by the Americans added to the long list of delaying tactics adopted by US negotiators in Panmunjom. Rejecting General Nam Il's compromise proposal of October 8 to put an end to the 15-month deadlock on the prisoner of war exchange issue—sole barrier to a settlement—the Americans precipitated an impasse by declaring an indefinite recess.

As the move coincided with the opening of the UN General Assembly, many observers felt that Washington was trying to bring before the UN the "impossibility" of ending the war in Korea by "negotiation," in an attempt to secure further support from wavering allies.

US negotiator General Harrison began calling for recesses as early as June, and his October 8 indefinite recess was the culmination of a series of three-day, one week and 10-day recesses up through September. And, when on October 8, General Nam Il presented his answer to a September 28 proposal by Harrison the Americans refused to listen, walking out with the announcement that the UN could only consider "proposals in writing" before resuming the talks.

Harrison's September 28 plan, a so-called three-point alternate proposal, in effect repeated the US demand to retain Korean and Chinese prisoners, who have long demonstrated their insistence on repatriation by the fact that for months American troops have had to put down "demonstrations" and "uprisings" in prisoner camps. The US proposal was a change in form rather in substance, indicating no alteration in its policy of withholding Korean and Chinese prisoners. Harrison, after advancing this new version of old US policy, declared a 10-day recess.

The Americans apparently were so certain that their proposal was unacceptable that Harrison came to the October 8 conference with a prepared statement announcing the breaking off of the talks. Disregarding a new proposal made by Nam Il, which was a definite concession, Harrison promptly read a strongly worded statement ending with a re-assertion that the US be allowed to retain Korean and Chinese POW's. He then left without waiting to hear Nam Il's reply.

Actually, the October 8 Korean-Chinese proposal removed all US objections for refusing to let the POW's return home. It was based on the principle that both sides should release and repatriate all POW's after the cease-fire; it accepted changes in form made in the US proposal, namely that all POW's on both sides be sent to the demilitarized zone and, instead of being immediately repatriated, be handed over to the opposite side as an initial step in the process of releasing them. After delivery of POW's to the side from which they came, joint Red Cross teams of both sides were to interview them and explain to them the principle already agreed upon which ensures that prisoners will return home and resume civilian life.

To remove any US apprehensions, the proposal further said that inspection teams made up of neutral nations should be on the spot for observation at the time of the interviewing of POW's and at the time of classifying and repatriating them on the basis of nationality area.

The US attempt to wreck the talks was further evidenced on the same day when its forces fired artillery shells into the conference area. The road from Panmunjom to Kaesong, along which Korean and Chinese delegates passed, was shelled after the October 8 meeting and planes bombed the borders of the Kaesong neutral area. At the same time, the Americans suppressed news of Nam Il's proposal thus attempting to create the impression that their September 28 proposition had been entirely rejected.

THE suspicion that the meeting of the UN General Assembly was directly connected with the US action at Panmunjom was heightened by inspired stories in the US press.

Said the *Wall Street Journal* on October 3: "The US will press the General Assembly . . . for a strong resolution telling the Reds they should accept the most recent armistice offer." Otherwise, the paper continued, "policy makers and Pentagonians are already working up a plan for stiffer reprisals" against Korea and China.

On October 5, the *New York Times* reported: "Tentative plans call for Secretary of State Acheson to present a general resolution shortly after the assembly opens, calling on the Communists to agree to a Korean armistice. If the resolution produces no result—and there is little to hope that it will—the US is expected to present a second and stronger resolution asking the Assembly specifically to reaffirm UN support for the US stand at Panmunjom."

UP, on October 9, openly stated: "There are strong indications in Washington that the US, reconciled to the indefinite stalemate in Korea, is counting upon non-American soldiers to take over the burden of combat. This would have the advantage . . . of reducing US casualties."

Japan: Paradise for US Business

AMERICAN domination of Japan since VJ Day has meant a change in the pre-war ties between big US business and Japanese monopolies. The chief difference today is that the US monopolies no longer are limited to the role of partners of big Japanese business. Simultaneously with the revival of Japanese militarism, US financial and industrial magnates have secured a dominant position in the nation's economy, gaining control of its industry, raw material resources, finances and trade.

American businessmen have gone in for buying stock in leading Japanese firms following the passage of a law in June 1951 encouraging foreign capital investments. More and more foreigners, chiefly American firms, are buying from 50 to 100 percent of the shares in Japanese companies. Japanese press reports show that some 30 top Japanese companies are fully controlled by foreign, chiefly American, businessmen.

American businessmen are exempt from taxes and customs duties. Recently, these privileges were extended to 13 more American companies opening branches in Japan. Such privileges mean additional opportunity for US interests to get a foot in the door.

While war plants are reaping big profits, many factories, deprived of subsidies and cheap war materials, are closing down and hundreds of thousands of workers have been thrown out of work. Between April and August 1952, nearly 1,500 small and medium sized enterprises in Japan closed their doors. Meanwhile, last December, the government completed the drafting of the final bills clearing the way for the return of the pre-war monster enterprises—the Zaibatsu. All restrictions on these former giant cartels have been erased.

DESPITE Japan's made-in-America "war boom," the nation's agriculture is highlighted by steep taxes and a general production decline. Official Japanese sources reported that in 1951 Japan's grain output dropped to its lowest level since the end of the war, with rice down by 4,000,000 *piculs* in comparison with 1950.

Instead of lowering taxes the government has insisted on raising them to a point where they come to one-third more than the income of the peasants. To meet their taxes, many peasants have had to sell their farm utensils and draft animals.

The effects of a feudal landlord system has forced the Japanese peasantry to squeeze in on a small acreage of farmland while large tracts remain uncultivated. The Ministry of Agriculture has admitted that uncultivated land in Hokkaido and Honshu alone totals 5,500,000 hectares, exceeding Japan's total acreage of farmland, according to the *Nagyo Kyosai Shimbun*.

Japan's rulers have long used the hoary tale that Japan has too large a population to feed its people. The Ministry of Agriculture's admission that there is a huge area of uncultivated land shows this story in its true light, a shibboleth for whipping up support for military adventures.

Investing in India

DESPITE five years of independence, the businessmen of India are realizing that the British, and more and more the Americans, have been making steady inroads into the nation's economy.

The first green light to foreign investors came in April 1948, when the government announced a change in the policy of strict control advocated by the new government in 1947 when India got her independence. The December 1951 agreements signed with British and American oil companies were the first to bring on serious speculation among Indian business circles over the "colonial nature" of agreements with foreign firms. On January 13, 1952 *Reuter* quoted US Ambassador Chester Bowles as saying: "India is the key to Southeast Asia . . . If we were to put in India an amount equal to the sums we put into China, there is every chance of success."

Among the "safeguards" to foreign capital given the oil companies was an assurance by the Indian government to hold back any contemplated nationalization plans for 25 years. In the event that nationalization should be decided upon, the government promised to pay reasonable compensation in foreign currency. In addition, certain regulations governing establishment and operation of foreign companies in India were waived in favor of the oil companies.

This year has seen the speeding up of foreign investment in India. Commenting on its effects, the New Delhi weekly *Commerce & Industry* has said: "There is no gainsaying the fact that foreign capital has taken a new garb which, though most innocent looking, is deadly in its effects . . . Whatever little the people of this land were able to achieve during the past few decades, under great stress and strain, is fading away. There are classic examples of slow death and extinction of indigenous industries due to the operations of foreign concerns in India, viz., much industry, rubber, pharmaceuticals, tooth paste, paint, dry battery, textile machinery, cosmetics, bicycles, automobiles, etc. . . .

"There is no doubt that many Indian concerns have faded away and many more will soon follow suit unless the government takes note of this process of slow poisoning of our industries under the garb of industrializing this country . . . "

Domestic Indian business is up against foreign concerns with long-established managerial knowledge, technical know-how, and the credit resources of foreign banks. Indian-owned units have to start from scratch and must find the necessary capital from the Indian investing public. At the same time, more than a century of British rule has conditioned the buying public to look down upon goods which are not imported.

Another aspect of the foreign penetration of the Indian economy has been the noticeable discrimination against Indian employees. Following the April 1948 Resolution of the Ministry of Industry and Supplies, which heralded a change in government policy towards foreign investors, these firms began a slow but steady withdrawal of Indian employees engaged in liaison work with the government and replaced them with their own nationals.

Commenting on the agreement between the government and the American-owned Standard Vacuum Oil Company, Lanka Sundaram, speaking in the House of People this July, stated: "The present employment policy of non-Indian companies in our midst today . . . has not been very happy. Data collected at the highest possible level show that the employment policy of foreign companies in our midst today has become discriminatory toward Indian nationals."

CHINESE PRODUCTS SHOWN AT THE LEIPZIG FAIR

● ● ● ROBERT WESTGATE

THE appearance of the New China as an exhibitor of machine tools at the Leipzig Trade Fair held in the 700-year-old fair town in the German Democratic Republic from September 7 to 17 gave tangible and impressive evidence that China's workers and technicians are exerting their tremendous energy and creative genius to transform their country into an advanced industrialized state.

It was only the second occasion on which the Chinese People's Republic took part in the Leipzig Fair. For this reason, no doubt, even German engineers expressed surprise that such great strides had been possible in the development of China's industry since 1949.

The organizers of the fair had originally planned to house the Chinese exhibit in considerably less space than ultimately proved necessary. I was told with what mild consternation and great delight it was learned that machinery was to be on show in the Chinese pavilion and how hurried arrangements had to be made to house China's 5,000 exhibits. Eventually they formed a magnificent display covering more than 3,000 square meters of space in a fine newly erected hall. Among foreign exhibitors only the Soviet Union had a larger area in which to display its huge range of products.

In the first four days alone over 200,000 visitors from more than 30 countries thronged through the Chinese hall viewing with interest a multitude of industrial and agricultural goods—lathes and milling machines, a pneumatic hammer and a coal cutter, soya beans and rice, asbestos and silk, tea and furs. Buyers and interested spectators, many of them gaining their first glimpse of China's rich resources, came from practically every country in Europe, from Asia, the Middle East and America.

A new electric testing guage for measuring the humidity in grain is demonstrated by the inventor, Pang Ping-lien of the state China Foodstuffs Corporation.

The machine tools dominated the display. The largest unit was a 25-ton machine for turning wheels. "I am astonished to see it here," an experienced German engineer told me, adding, "I am certain it will not be very long before the Chinese overcome the difficulties involved in putting it into quantity production." Altogether there were over 80 machines on show, many of them date-stamped "1952", and they included metal working lathes, grinding, boring and milling machines, milling cutters, a portable compressor, a transformer 30 feet high, electric motors, generators and textile machines, products of state factories in Northeast and East China.

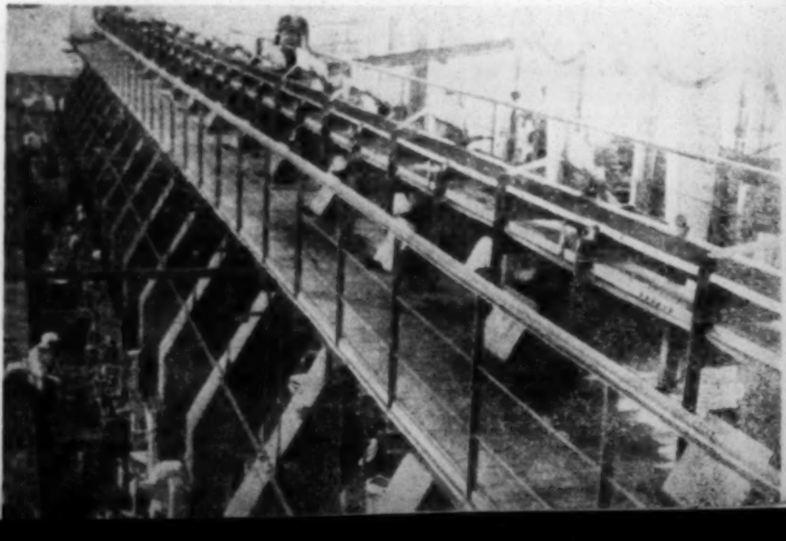
The textile machines on show were of special interest in view of plans to put them into serial production and meet the growing needs of the expanding textile industry. A 400-spindle ring spinning machine was first made in 1950. The basis of the design was Japanese but many improved parts were added by Chinese technicians. A carding machine and a fly machine both incorporated features of English originals.

Engineers in neat blue drill overalls demonstrated many of the machines to interested audiences, and 20-year-old model worker Hsiang Feng-chi, who operated the ring spin, was certainly the most photographed girl of the fair. Most sought-after picture was one showing her signing an autograph for smiling *L'Humanité* correspondent Rosa Michel.

The array of consumer goods, foodstuffs, products of light industry and minerals and industrial raw materials served to show the richness of China's resources and the steps being taken to exploit them for the benefit of her people. Bicycles, thermos flasks, fountain pens, clocks, radios, electric appliances, a gramophone and numerous musical instruments (including a piano), carpets, beautiful silks and brocades, laboratory glassware, newsprint, toys, tires and a multitude of tinned foods were clear evidence of the prosperity that has come to all those who manufacture the goods that contribute to a rising standard of living. The new abundance which last April made possible price reductions in China affecting more than 10,000 commodities of daily use was reflected in the crowded show cases in the hall.

A striking indication that there will be a growing volume of trade between China and the People's Democracies was the way in which Chinese goods put on sale in a state store in Leipzig were eagerly snapped up. Within three days of the fair's opening, 80 percent of the silks, satins, and woolens offered to the public had been purchased. Foreign visitors from Western Europe were impressed by the quality of the products and the low prices at which they were offered. Cigarettes were

Shanghai's first mechanized foundry was established on October 1 by workers and technicians of the state-owned Textile Machinery Corporation.



especially popular and, like the fine tinned foods, were a virtually permanent cause of queues among shoppers.

About 60 visitors from Britain attended the fair and all of them took advantage of the opportunity to see the New China's shop window. Those to whom I spoke admitted that the Chinese people's progress since liberation was little short of miraculous. "Having known the old China I would not have thought it possible," one of them told me. It would be a dangerous fallacy, he added, to argue that as China was now beginning to make so many products of both light and heavy industry which she formerly imported, the scope for trade with countries like Britain had been narrowed.

"The very reverse is the case," he said. "I am firmly convinced from what I have seen here of China's progress that the opportunities for trade between Britain and China are greater than ever before. Development of the most spectacular kind has taken the place of stagnation and primitiveness and this means demands on a scale that could not have been dreamt of a decade ago. Moreover, it is clear that China is now in a better position than ever before to produce those raw materials and other products in which Britain has been traditionally interested."

Similarly bright prospects for the future of Sino-British trade were outlined by Mr. C. L. Sun, of the Chinese delegation. "Business will definitely continue between Britain and China," he said. "Since the Moscow Economic Conference much business has been done with Britain and very good connections have been established.

"In China the standard of living of nearly 500,000,000 people is rising and they have more money to spend on such things as cotton and woolen piece goods. Although China's own production can satisfy part of the demand, business in these lines will continue with Britain. We are always interested in doing business based on supply and demand, mutual benefit and equality." Mr. Sun emphasized that while China would always welcome newcomers in the field of trade with Britain, there would be no discrimination against any trader.

In brief, China's participation in the Leipzig Fair, like that of the Soviet Union and all the People's Democracies, was precisely a demonstration of the desire to trade with all peoples, a proof of their firm conviction that the maximum exchange of goods between all countries is an important contribution to peace and the way to better living standards for all nations.

Letter from Wuhan

. . . . Liu Chen-ray

WUHAN, a group of five cities on the Yangtze, of which Hankow is the best known, is central China's industrial and commercial center. Under the Kuomintang regime, the exploited inhabitants of Wuhan called the city a "wine press" because of the never-ending exactions by KMT officials under the name of "taxes" and "contributions."

Most of the money thus collected simply went into the pockets of KMT officials, and it naturally followed that streets remained unpaved and became muddy troughs, while rubbish heaps grew in the corners of the lanes. There were few buses or public lavatories, and the latter were ill-kept and filthy. The workers, who created the wealth stolen by their overlords, crouched in squalid huts, constantly menaced by hunger, cold and disease.

On the pretext of observing the "sacred national laws," people were forbidden to discuss politics, to criticize government officials, or even to struggle for their livelihood. The KMT gang constantly increased its atrocities, in order to break down the will of the people struggling for emancipation.

Illegal, secret arrests multiplied; workers, merchants, professors and students disappeared from their jobs and families, were cruelly tortured, then sentenced to death on trumped-up charges. A vivid example of rule by terror was the "June 1 Incident" (1947) at Wuhan University, when three students were shot to death by dum-dum bullets, many others wounded and arrested, and senior professors were imprisoned. Just before the KMT fled from the city they maliciously wrecked riverfront pontoons, bridges, the main north-south railway, and planned to carry off the machinery and yarn of the biggest cotton mill in Wuhan, but the workers' "Factory Protection Movement" frustrated the plan.

ON May 16, 1949, when the PLA liberated Wuhan, the streets were filled with people who welcomed their own troops in relief and joy. That unforgettable day will long live in everyone's memory.

Having long been subjected to the influence of malicious KMT rumors, some feared that the new authorities would declare "common possession" of wives and property. But time has proved the absurdity of these fears; and those who doubted now realize that the present government is really of and for the people.

In order to re-establish communications between Peking

THE NEW HANKOW UNION

TO any one returning to Hankow after a two years' absence, the new Hankow Union Hospital might seem a miracle. The old missionary-run Union Hospital is gone forever.

It was a small institution, where the foreigners and wealthy were expensively treated. If patients had no money, emergency case or not, they were frequently left outside the door.

After liberation, the hospital was judged not qualified to meet the demands of the people, and the government made plans to reform and expand it. The plan called for a combination of the Union Hospital and the Wuhan University Hospital in Wuchang. At first this met with objections, but after a series of study conferences, these objections were overcome, and the two institutions merged on June 1, 1950.

According to the new construction program, work was begun on dormitories for doctors, nurses, other staff members and workers, a dining hall, and a new ward. Today, the hospital has 500 beds and the goal of treating 2,000 outpatients a day has been attained.

Soon after the two hospitals were combined, government workers led a hospital reform movement, during which everyone closely scanned his personal history, the defects in his old ways of thinking and attitudes toward the patients. As a result, many found a great deal to criticize in themselves and strove to adopt a new outlook.

At the same time, a detailed investigation of hospital property was carried out, which resulted in the unearthing of hundreds of medical instruments and other supplies, which had long lain neglected and Canton, the railway corps of the PLA immediately began emergency repairs to the line, with the cooperation of the railway workers. The line to Peking was restored by the end of 1949, and the line south to Canton shortly afterward.

As in the rest of China, the people of Wuhan have enthusiastically taken part in the various patriotic movements. During the "Resist America, Aid Korea" movement they contributed nearly ¥100,000,000,000; thousands of youths volunteered for military training, with their parents' consent; and women organized themselves to make clothes and shoes for the volunteers. Everyone is supporting the "Increase Production Campaign," knowing that in this way the nation can defend itself and peace can be saved.

The "Suppression of Counter-Revolutionary Elements" movement began in the spring of 1951. After liberation, many underground groups of KMT thugs were discovered; they had been left behind to create social unrest and carry on wrecking activities. When a fire burned down more than 2,000 buildings and rendered 10,000 homeless, investigation showed that it was arson, plotted by the KMT underground.

Since liberation, the people's government had followed a policy of leniency in dealing with such KMT agents, who were called upon to confess their crimes and cease their anti-social activities. However, many refused to change their ways, and

N HOSPITAL

when the hospital was run by the foreign missions.

During the more recent "San Fan" movement, those who had stolen large amounts of hospital property were caught, and waste and bureaucracy were checked. A careful investigation of accidents to patients as a result of wrong or careless treatment was of great value in educating the staff, who criticized their mistakes in treatment, bad manners to patients, and other faults, and pledged themselves to work more diligently and carefully. As a further step in improving the work, many suggestions made by patients were adopted.

In these ways, in the spirit of wholeheartedly serving the patients' needs and of constantly improving its work, the staff of the new Hankow Union Hospital is determined to fulfill its task of serving the people.

most of these were apprehended during the movement. Leniency was still shown minor offenders and those who voluntarily confessed; however, a small number of ringleaders were severely dealt with.

Encouraged by the government, the workers carried out a "Democratic Reform" movement, a struggle against the feudal bosses who had exploited them for so long. One of the most notorious gangsters, Yang Chin-shan, was shot as a result of the record of cruelty and oppression the workers proved against him. They now receive full wages, instead of half or more going into the pockets of racketeers.

New successes have since been achieved on the production front, with the workers energetically exploring new methods to increase output and practice economy. New production records are constantly being set, and commodity prices have been lowered by an average of 11 percent. The "Increase Production" and "Practice Economy" movements have been instrumental in providing the basis for the forthcoming national economic planning.

ALONG with these movements, the people have taken an active part in the peace campaign. More than 93 percent signed the Stockholm Appeal, and hundreds of thousands paraded in a demonstration against America's remilitarization of Japan.

During the past three years, the Bureau of Culture and Education has devoted great efforts to enrich culture and improve eduction. The two famous films, "White Haired Girl" and "Resist America and Aid Korea," were screened 1,230 times, to a total audience of nearly 200,000, while exhibitions of the culture and material progress of Rumania and Czechoslovakia strengthened our confidence in our future. Our own "Native Products Interflow Exhibition" showed the inexhaustible richness of our natural resources. The exhibits, which concretely set forth our wealth of manpower and natural resources, helped to eradicate the erroneous idea that China is a poor and weak nation.

The "Wu Fan Exhibition" displayed evidence of the attacks carried on by unscrupulous businessmen against the people's regime; one saw rice mixed with sand, canned "beef" that was partly horsemeat, medicines which were not up to specification, etc.

The doors of schools now stand wide open to the children of workers and farmers, and they are given priority in enrollment. Beginning this term, all students in national universities and technical schools are studying free of charge.

MUCH has been done in the field of municipal reconstruction. The formerly dilapidated streets have gradually changed their appearance; Liberation Street, for example, 60 meters wide and 1,800 meters long, is now paved with concrete and lined with trees. On the formerly abandoned Chinese Merchants' Race Track new buildings of the Central and South China Tung Chi Medical College now stand; the college has more than 300 students.

There has been much construction for public health, including 40 public lavatories and more than 13,000 meters of new sewage mains. Additions to the Union Hospital of Hankow permit the accommodation of more patients; hundreds of quarantine centers were set up to administer seasonal preventive injections; mobile corps make routine checks of city-wide sanitary conditions. Citizens have cleaned up their living and business premises, indoors and out, and maintenance of cleanliness has been an important factor in the absence of epidemics.

As a culminating point of three years of rapid progress, on June 20 construction of the Ching River Detention Basin was finished, freeing millions of people in the area from the threat of yearly floods and ensuring bountiful crops. Wuhan workers had a share in this victory over the Yangtze.

BOOKS OF INTEREST

YO BANFA! (We Have a Way!), by Rewi Alley, foreword by Joseph Needham. Published by China Monthly Review, Shanghai, 1952. 193 pp, plates 24 pp, map. Price US$1.00. Reviewed by W.B.

REWI Alley, from the vantage point of his 25 years in China, has written the dramatic and moving story of what the new scheme of things means to the millions of peasants and workers who were ground down to the utmost depths of poverty and degradation during the two decades of Chiang Kai-shek's rule. His book is full of the stuff of human experience, of the long and bitter struggle of the people among whom he lived and worked, a struggle against gang rule, terrible exploitation and misery, a struggle which at last brought the people of China the possibility of creating a decent life for their families.

The author fought in the first world war, grew to hate the destruction and waste of human life and values. He worked his way to Shanghai in 1927, where he became chief factory inspector, battling for decent working conditions for the workers.

In 1938 Rewi Alley became active in the organization of Chinese Industrial Cooperative units, in the attempt to develop small-scale production which would help resist the Japanese invasion. For a time the Kuomintang gave at least lip service to the movement, but soon the KMT torpedoed the United Front and intensified its persecution of all people's movements, including the cooperatives. Rewi Alley thereafter became the acting headmaster of the Sandan Bailie School, where youths from the peasant and working classes were trained for industrial leadership.

In the form of a diary written during the course of 1951, the book's emphasis is upon the almost unbelievable corruption and cruelty of the Kuomintang and its gangster satraps, abetted by foreign political agents, traders and missionaries. This is contrasted with vivid glimpses of the new life the people have now won for themselves, the freedom they now have to create a new China. "The immediate past," says the author in his preface, ". . . is a somewhat bitter subject. Yet, for the average man and woman outside China, there is need for a more thorough realization of what the old meant" in order the better to assess the strength and significance of the new.

He tells of the child workers who were bought like so much cattle and herded into filthy sweatshops, where they were forced to tend machines 14 hours a day. There was no care for safety; in one such hole, most of the children, feeding metal parts into presses, had lost a finger. When a child had suffered more than two such amputations, he was kicked into the street to starve . . .

Girls were also brought to the city's mills in batches, rounded up by the gangsters whose organizations, protected by both local and foreign authority, were the real power in the city. Often they remained virtual prisoners in the mills; the only escape from long hours of drudgery was into prostitution, also controlled by the gangs.

The foreigners, attracted to the Shanghai where the only watchword was profit, were as callous as Chinese factory owners regarding the welfare of their workers. At the American-owned Shanghai Power Company, workers in the coal bins were frequently carried down the chute and into the furnace. A simple halter would have prevented such accidents, but nothing was done about it.

Yet Shanghai had no monoply on disregard of the workers' welfare. The author traveled around the world, looking into factory conditions in the USA, England and elsewhere, finding the came hazards as those existing in Shanghai.

Later, during the height of the Japanese invasion, the author carried on a bitter and at times disheartening struggle against the Kuomintang, trying to organize production cooperatives which would afford a livelihood to thousands and create goods so desperately needed tc carry on the war of resistance. But the KMT was too busy with its inter-clique struggles for power, was too suspicious of anything which might weaken their hold; and so the cooperative workers were removed from their jobs, imprisoned or shot.

The worst elements in the pattern of autocratic rule established by the KMT in Shanghai grew and strengthened during the Chungking days. Rewi Alley describes the attempts of Chiang Kai-shek and his wife, with the aid of their American and Nazi advisers and the missionaries, to present a "democratic" front to the world, while the infamous secret police of Tai Li imprisoned, tortured and shot any who dared to raise questions or try to make a better life.

Many more aspects of the sordid world of the KMT are described, including the travesty of "relief," which, while thousands died miserably in famine and flood, was chiefly a means for the further enrichment of the officials.

The author gives the bright contrast between the old rotten world and the new that has begun to arise in the short time since the KMT was swept away. He tells of the swift development of cooperatives in the new China—no official corruption, greed and fear to halt it now; the palatial homes of former officials, now turned into nurseries, kindergartens and schools; the surge toward study; the People's Liberation Army, well fed, clothed and taught, which today's youth feels it an honor to join; the vast new conservancy projects, such as the Huai River Project. . . .

This book makes vivid the reality of change in China, which has affected all the people, "a thing vastly more important than the development of any kind of new bomb." The change is for the peaceful building of a new and better way of living for all the people.

More space might have been given to the achievements of the present; and it is hoped that Rewi Alley will do them full justice in his next book.

CHINA STANDS UP by R. K. Karanjia, People's Publishing House Ltd.. Bombay, 1952, 264 pages. Price £—/12/6. Reviewed by J. S.

"CHINA Stands Up" is a newspaperman's report on people's China. It is also the reflections of a man who came to new China and was literally overwhelmed by what he saw and experienced.

The author, editor-in-chief of the Bombay newsweekly *Blitz*, was a member of the first Indian Cultural Mission which visited China in October 1951. In his more than one month's visit to China, Mr. Karanjia saw many places, spoke to all kinds of people and officials, and based on this first-hand information he has written a short and concise volume describing the great changes which have come to the one-time "Sick Man of Asia."

Mr. Karanjia sums up the great changes and developments which have taken place in China in the last three years. Beginning with a short introduction to contemporary China by describing the 19th century domination by Western imperialism bent on carving up China, the author gives an insight into the role of the foreign interventionists working in cahoots with the tottering rulers. However, the major portion of "China Stands Up" is a report of his own observations in China, beginning with the author's train trip from Canton to Peking for the October 1 National Day celebration.

Although it has been chiefly written for an Indian public, a public which is casting ever-growing friendly eyes on Asia's first big people's democracy, "China Stands Up" is a book which contains valuable information for Western readers. For the author, in addition to reporting on new China, has added the feelings of an Asian towards a China which has broken the stranglehold of the same trio which today threatens his own country, India: feudalism, domestic reaction and foreign imperialism. The author has done more than just a reportorial job; in many instances where he writes of the gigantic sweep and achievements of the Chinese revolution he is reflecting the impressions and thoughts of millions in the Far East now looking to China as a beacon of hope.

Mr. Karanjia must be complimented for the manner in which he has not hesitated to refute through personal observation and factual interpretation some of the larger canards which have been spread about new China. Such myths as "slave labor," "mass executions," "extermination of the middle class" all are picked up and flung back at their originators for what they are —outright lies spread by the enemies of new China. For example, writing on the "San Fan and Wu Fan" movement which, according to Western press pundits, was intended to eliminate private businessmen, the author says:

"The victorious revolutionists had only to say the word and all private enterprise would have ceased to be. In fact, it had become nearly extinct during the last years of the Kuomintang regime, caught and crushed as it was between the rampage of the foreign imperialists and native compradores. Far from seeking to eliminate the bourgeoisie, Mao did everything possible to rehabilitate them and put them back on their feet as a vital unit in the common fight for production."

Mr. Karanjia has seen new China and he has given his reader an idea of why it came about it, what it is and why the Chinese people are wholeheartedly in support of it. He has talked with workers, peasants, newly-liberated women and revolutionary heroes and heroines. He has talked with intellectuals and with businessmen. He knows what the old China was like and he has seen the new and so he is able to give facts and figures pointing up the great difference between the two.

Not only does the author give his reader some idea of the vast material progress which has been made in China in less than three years of liberation—more than was accomplished in the previous three decades—but he has been able to catch some of the feeling, the vitality, the new spirit which has swept across all China.

But Mr. Karanjia fails to grasp the full international aspect of the revolution which has liberated China. Instead, throughout the book runs a fine thread of Pan-Asianism, which considerably narrows the scope of the Chinese revolution and its influence all over the world. Mr. Karanjia seems to forget that vital as Asia's role may be in the general people's liberation movements now taking place, it is still only part of the whole.

The author has done a fine job of selecting and presenting the major changes and trends in new China. However, it seems to this reviewer that he could have devoted some space to the solving of the national minority question which has been of great importance in China. This is particularly so since India is a country with just such a problem.

IT is evident that his visit to China made a great impression on the author. He had expected changes but the scale of these changes was much greater than he had anticipated. Perhaps for this reason Mr. Karanjia, on occasion prone to burst into unbounded enthusiasm, has committed a few minor errors of fact such as placing the editor of this magazine and his wife in Peking during the October 1, 1951, celebration when they were not there. This point is mentioned not because it in any way diminishes the value of the volume but because it gives the critics of new China a morsel to pounce upon and blow up out of all proportion.

The Red-baiters no doubt will dismiss "China Stands Up" as "Red propaganda" and its author as a "Red." This is not true. Mr. Karanjia is a reporter who, judged from this work, has eyes and considerable sensitiveness. For this reason his book is a valuable combination of fact and feeling concerning the great events taking place here.

Report to Readers

LAST month we noted that we'd been nearly four years without a vacation and were at long last planning to get a little time off. At that point we were feeling rather sorry for ourselves, complaining that we were getting "stale" and needed a chance to look at something besides each other's face every day.

The holiday is about over but we are still feeling sorry for ourselves. Now, however, it's not because we're stale or in need of a change of scenery; rather it's because we have only 128 pages in this issue to cram everything into. Our two-man-and-one-woman editorial staff has been in at least six different directions and each is fully convinced that it will take the whole issue just to say his piece.

The first few weeks were spent in Peking where we attended the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference. This was a great experience for us all. Not only were we fortunate in being able to cover such an important and newsworthy event, but we learned a lot. It was an education in honest democracy and demonstrated clearly what people of good will are capable of accomplishing, no matter what country or walk of life they may come from. Talking with delegates from some 40 countries gave us a chance to broaden our perspective and also brought home just how "big" a thing is peace. There's no doubt but what it is the universal rallying cry for all humankind.

* * *

AFTER the conference was over, one editor returned to Shanghai to get this issue in shape, making a brief stop-over in Tientsin on the way down. The other two stayed on in Peking for a week, interviewing model workers, professors, editors, taking in the sights and lining up articles for future issues.

Report to Readers . . . .

We then split up, with one going to the Northeast and the other returning to Shanghai with stopovers in Nanking and a side trip to the Huai River.

While we can no longer complain of being tired of looking at each other, we'll probably have other "issues" arising out of the vacation. As might be expected, our two male editors voted themselves the longest trips, leaving our one woman editor the job of returning to Shanghai first and cleaning things up, getting the copy together, laying out the issue, reading proof and so on.

* * *

IT is difficult to say right now just what part of the trip we got the most out of. Everything was of interest, not a day nor an hour was dull. The 500 year-old bronze astronomy instruments at Nanking's weather observatory which are sufficiently accurate to be of use today if needed, the 60,000 men working on the huge Sun Ho Sluice Gate in north Kiangsu who are winning the battle against the Huai River, the first rate performance of the municipal drama troupe in little Yangchow, a town well off the beaten path and long known to the rest of China mainly for the variety and excellence of its dumplings (which are still beyond description)—all were impressive.

But certainly most impressive of all are the people. No matter where we went, the people made themselves heard and felt. From the wrinkled old peasants down to the red-kerchiefed young pioneers, the people greeted the touring peace conference delegates with cheers and applause. At every whistle stop, the people were on hand, smiling and waving, often pressing bunches of flowers into the delegates' hands. Even passing through the countryside peasants near enough to the train to distinguish the foreign faces in the windows would wave their hats or clap their hands as the train went by.

The reception became even more enthusiastic during the tour of the Huai River conservancy projects in north Kiangsu. Traveling more slowly by car and boat, the delegates were readily recognizable and it is no exaggeration to say that in places like Yangchow every man, woman and child who could walk lined the sidewalks in welcome as the long motorcade drove into town.

All the delegates—and we, too,—were impressed by the obviously genuine enthusiasm with which the people greeted the touring visitors from abroad, talked spiritedly of their new life since Chiang Kai-shek's government was chased out, described in glowing terms the even better life that would be theirs when the many great construction projects such as the harnessing of the Huai River were completed.

* * *

IF any delegates had reservations about how the people felt, none had any doubts after touring the towns and villages and construction projects of north Kiangsu. Here they got right down among the people. On the San Ho Sluice Gate project and at another construction site where a ship lock is being built into the ancient Grand Canal, the delegates piled out of their cars and hiked all over the place, shaking hands and talking with literally tens of thousands of peasants who were doing the preliminary excavation work.

Virtually every conceivable question was fired at the workers: "Did you come here of your own free will?", "How much are you paid?"; "Can you quit whenever you want?" And dozens more of the same nature. And sometimes the roles were changed, with the delegates themselves answering the workers' questions: "How is the peace movement progressing in your country?"; "Tell the American mothers that I would hate to see my two sons meet their sons on the battlefield."

Thus it went as the delegates traveled a zig-zag path by car and boat for some 500 kilometers through the mid-

Report to Readers . . . .

section of the Huai River construction area.

* * *

AND there was Miss Tseng Chao-yueh, vice-director of the Nanking Museum, who gave the delegates a running commentary on Chinese history, its high points, the periods of greatest development and all the whys and wherefores as she led them through the dozen or so large rooms already completed and filled with Chinese cultural relics dating from around 3,000 B. C. to the present.

She and the museum were both examples of the contrast between the new and the old China. When Chiang Kai-shek ruled in Nanking, the museum was pretty much of a paper affair, the buildings were only foundations, the collecting was slow and uncertain, while Miss Tseng was an ordinary staff worker without hope for advancement in the great bureaucratic morass that was the museum pork barrel.

Today the central building has been nearly completed, a couple of smaller wings have been built, a first rate collection assembled and put on display and teams dispatched throughout East China to supervise excavation work on a number of sites. For example, the staff has been particularly busy since the construction work on the Huai River began as it is repeatedly called upon to send teams to this or that spot to examine relics uncovered as work on the canals and main installations progresses.

* * *

THERE'S much more to report, but it'll have to wait for next month. Our editor who went to the Northeast is still reporting from the road so his full story is yet to come, while the other two, having discovered that we're not as indispensable as we thought, are already planning new trips for the future and hope to get at least one in before the January issue is out.

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